Snow Woman Fantasy:
Chronicles of Michiyuki
BY ANDO ICORI

Antisense Scanslations
Translations - Thestripedone
Cleaning/Lettering - Arieea

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Yukionna Gensô ❄ Iori Ando

安堂維子里

みゆき篇

雪女幻想

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みちゆき篇

安堂維子里

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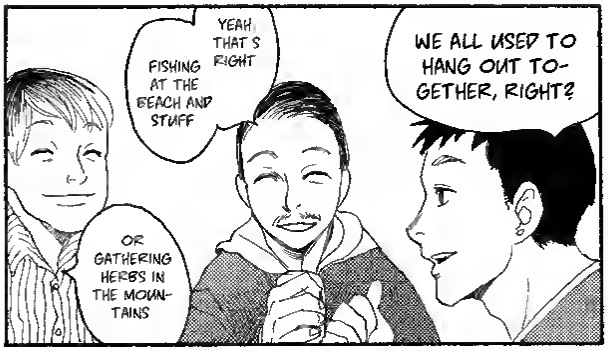
'SCUSE ME.
THE BUS ISN'T RUNNING ON THIS ROUTE RIGHT NOW

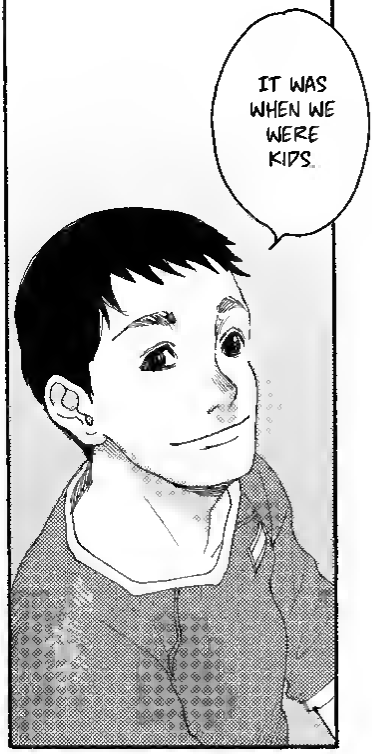
THAT WAS HOW I MET SUZUMU.

Chapter 1

MAN, SUZUMU, YOU SURE LANDED YOURSELF A GOOD WIFE.
YEAH, YEAH!
SHE'S A HARD WORKER, AND GOOD LOOKING, TOO
Cheers!
I GUESS I SHOULDN'T TELL YOU THAT I JUST BOUGHT IT, THEN.
Well,
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
SHE'S A GOOD COOK, TOO!
SORRY,
IT'S BECAUSE I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO PREPARE
SHE'S AN HONEST PERSON!
Ha ha ha!
MY WIFE WOULD NEVER ADMIT THAT.

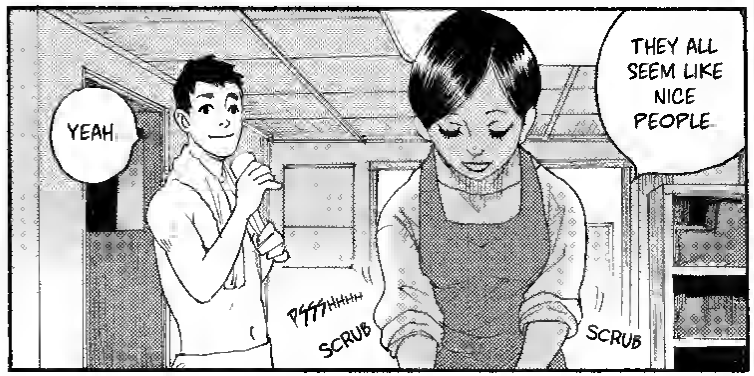
Phew!
YUKI, THE SAKÉ'S GETTING COOL
Ah, sorry
I'LL GO HEAT IT UP
I'LL BRING SOME SIDE DISHES TOO
HERE
WHY DOESN'T SHE SIT DOWN AND DRINK WITH US?
WELL, SHE'S HIS WIFE... IT'S ONLY NATURAL...
SFX TAP X2
BY THE WAY, DID YOU HEAR THAT AIKA'S COME BACK?
AIKA... YOU MEAN SAKAMOTO AIKA?
WHAT'S HER LAST NAME NOW?
WELL, SHE GOT DIVORCED...
OH, AIKA'S AN OLD FRIEND OF YOURS, SUZUMU?
I HAVE THE SAME SHIFT AS HER AT MY PART TIME JOB
YOU WERE CHILDHOOD FRIENDS, WEREN'T YOU SUZUMU? DID YOU HEAR ANYTHING?
I HEARD SHE WAS BACK, BUT THAT'S ABOUT IT...


WE ALL USED TO HANG OUT TOGETHER, RIGHT?
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT
FISHING AT THE BEACH AND STUFF
OR GATHERING HERBS IN THE MOUNTAINS


IT WAS WHEN WE WERE KIDS.

THAT SOUNDS NICE.
Ha ha!

SFX BOOM

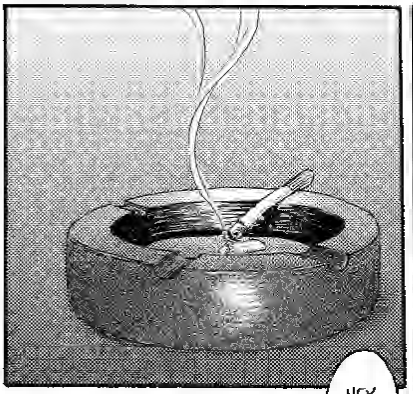

YEAH.
THEY ALL SEEM LIKE NICE PEOPLE.
PSSSHHHH
SCRUB
SCRUB

Ha ha ha.
Ha ha ha ha!

IT'S BECAUSE THEY ALL WANTED TO MEET YOU, YUKI.
YOU'RE A STRANGER HERE, AFTER ALL
BRUSH
I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO MAKE A THING.
STILL, IT WAS A BIT SUDDEN
SUZUMU
THEY WANT TO HURRY UP AND MAKE YOU FEEL AT HOME.
SUZUMU IS...
A NICE PERSON, WITH A KIND HEART.
HE LOVES ME MORE THAN ANYTHING.

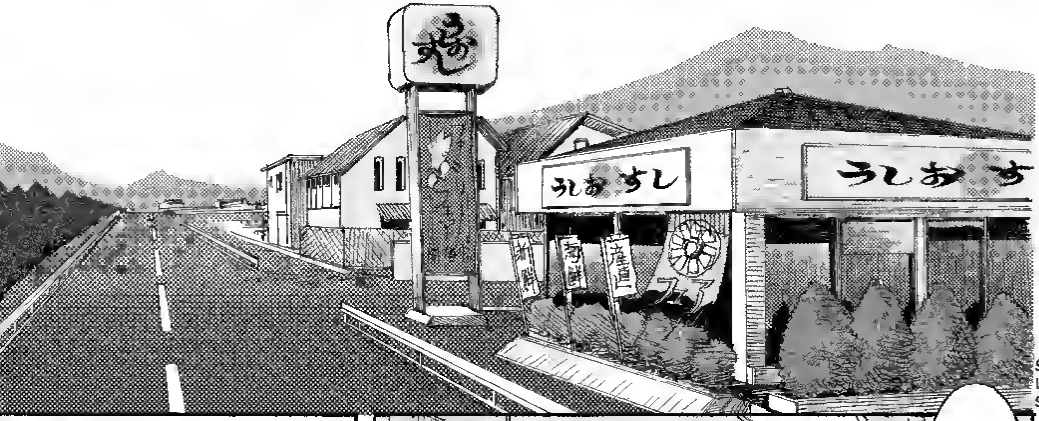
YOUR BODY... IT'S COLD.
SO I'LL...

YOU'RE VERY SENSI-TIVE... TO THE COLD.
TAKE CARE, TOO.

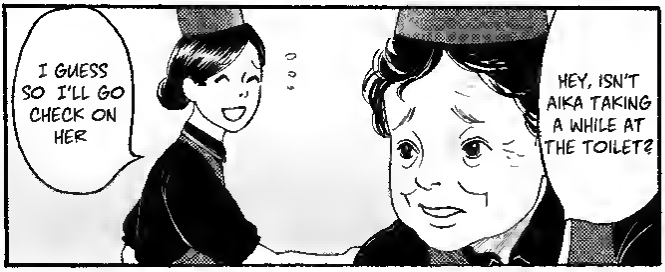


HEY,
YOU SHOULD COME PAY AIKA A VISIT, TOO

DO YOU HATE COLD WOMEN?
OF SUZUMU AND THE THINGS AROUND HIM.



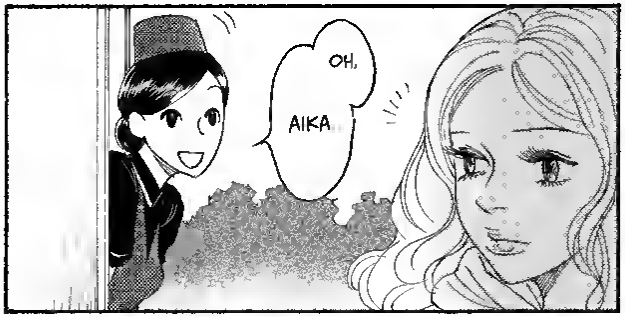
SIGN
USHIO
SUSHI

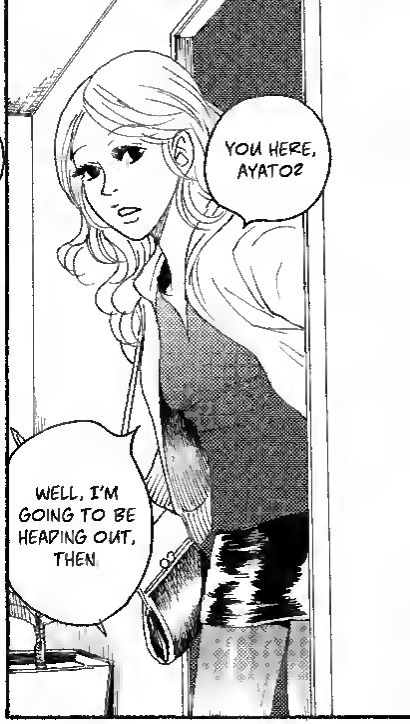


OH, AIKA.
THE RESTAURANT'S PRETTY BUSY. CAN YOU COME BACK IN?
Hmph!
FLICK
AND YOU SHOULDN'T BE SMOKING, EITHER
NOT DURING WORK...
SFX: STOMP
CLICK
TOSS
CLONK
ANY OTHER COMPLAINTS?
BOTTLE: TOBACCO, NO STINK MIST

SNIFF SNIFF
SHE WAS SMOKING AGAIN, WASN'T SHE?
AIKA WILL BE RIGHT IN
SORRY I'M LATE
Well, whatever.
MAMA!
VWW
I HAVE TO TAKE AN INTEREST...
IN SUZUMU'S CHILDHOOD FRIENDS.

YEAH, BYE!
BYE, AYATO!
NICE WORK
GOOD WORK.

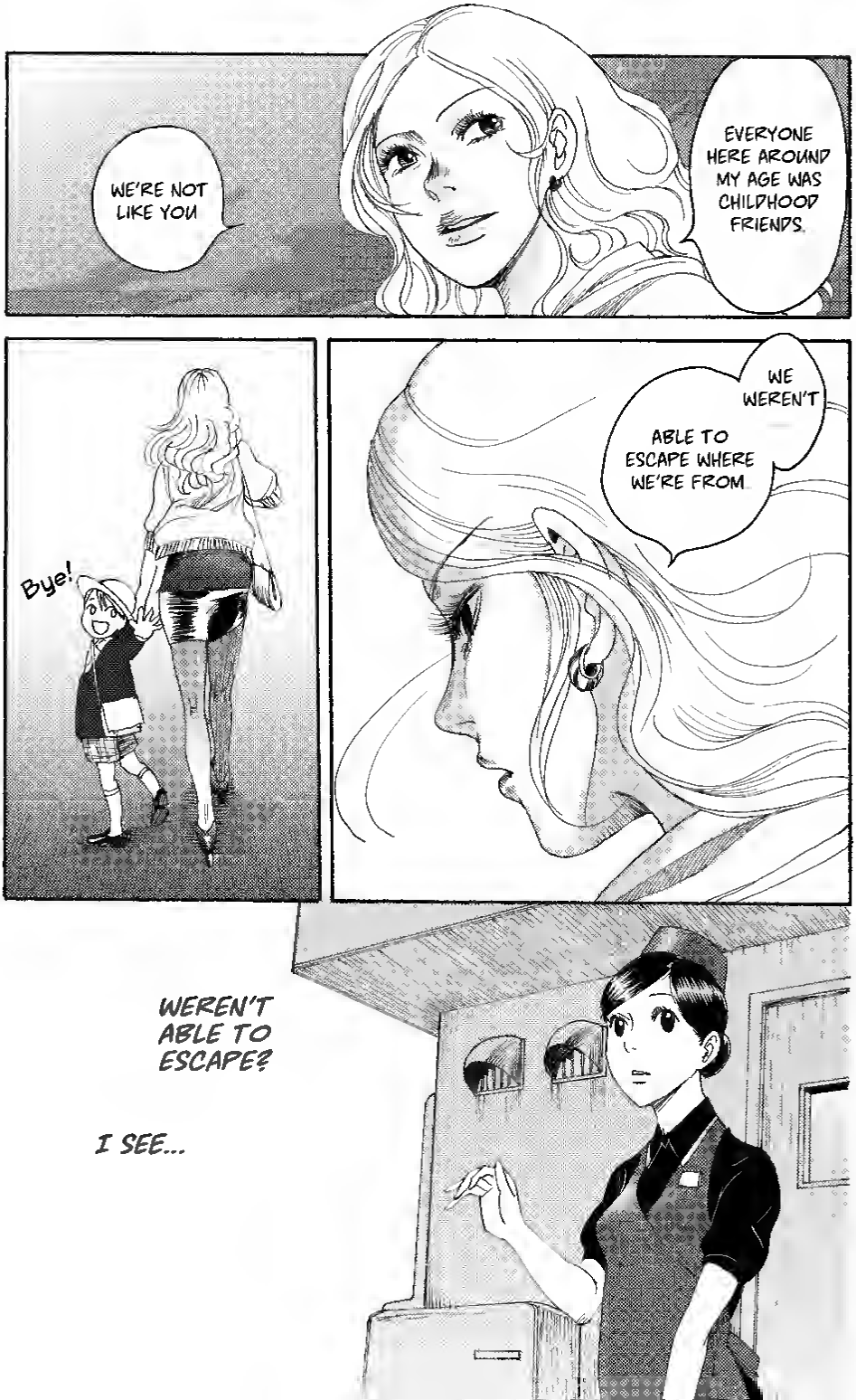

OH, AIKA.

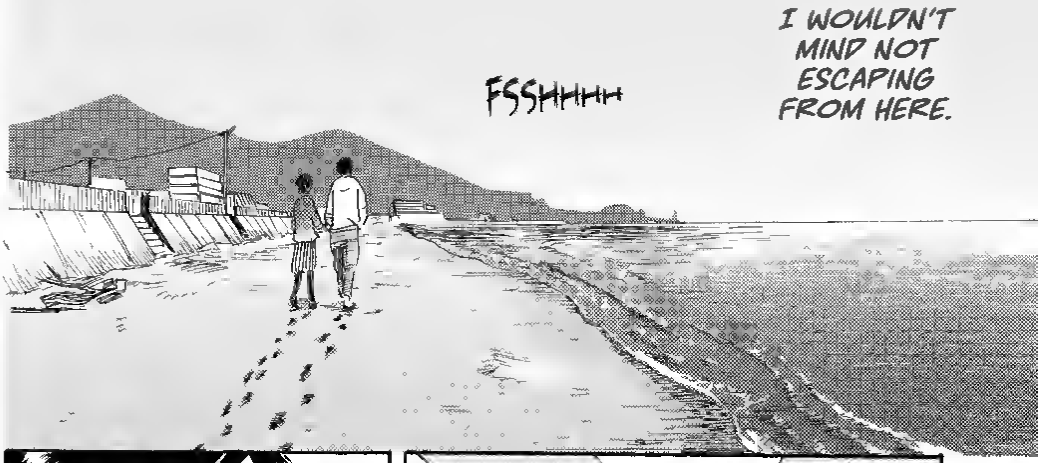

YOU HERE, AYATO?
WELL, I'M GOING TO BE HEADING OUT, THEN.

BY THE WAY, I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU WERE MY HUSBAND'S CHILDHOOD FRIEND.
WHY DON'T YOU COME OVER SOME TIME?

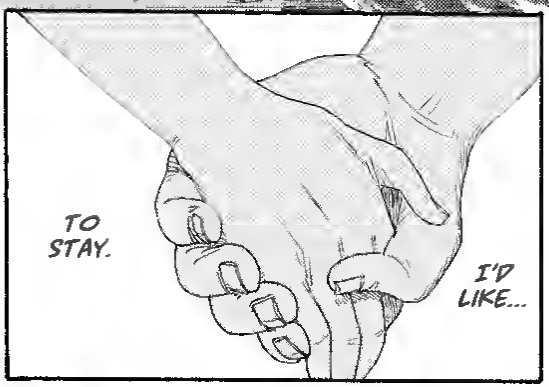
YOU MIGHT WANT THESE AGAIN.
MILD FIVE

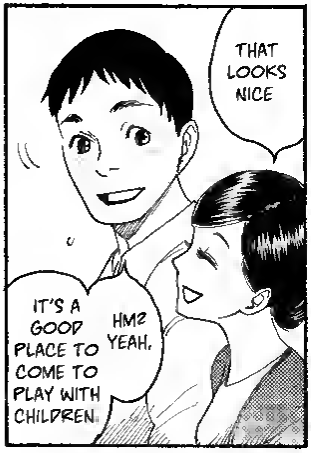
GRAB
THANKS

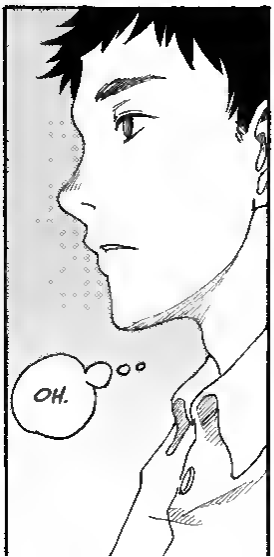

EVERYONE HERE AROUND MY AGE WAS CHILDHOOD FRIENDS.
WE'RE NOT LIKE YOU
WE WEREN'T ABLE TO ESCAPE WHERE WE'RE FROM.
Bye!
WEREN'T ABLE TO ESCAPE?
I SEE...


I WOULDN'T MIND NOT ESCAPING FROM HERE.
FSSHHHH

SUZUMU'S HAND IS BIG, AND WARM...


TO STAY.
I'D LIKE...


THAT LOOKS NICE
IT'S A GOOD PLACE TO COME TO PLAY WITH CHILDREN.
HM? YEAH.


OH.

Ha ha ha!
Yay!

I GUESS SO...
WE SHOULD START THINKING ABOUT HAVING KIDS SOON, TOO.
JUST LEAVE MONEY TO ME.
YUKI, IS YOUR WORK FUN?
SURE. ANYWAY, IT HELPS MAKE ENDS MEET.
HERE, LOOK OVER HERE!
I'M A CRAB!
AH... OKAY
LET'S GO!
OH, IT'S AIKA AND AYATO.
HEY...

OH, SUZUMU AND AIKA?
SURE, I KNOW ABOUT IT.
AIKA WAS VERY PRETTY WHEN SHE WAS YOUNG.
SHE GOT TEASED ABOUT IT PRETTY OFTEN.
SUZUMU WAS ALWAYS THE ONE WHO PROTECTED HER.
I SEE, SO THAT'S HOW IT WAS.
I WONDER WHY... IT SEEMS LIKE I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT IT.
WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE ANYONE TALKS ABOUT IT.
AH...
WOULD IT? I WONDER...
STARTING IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, SHE GOT REALLY HARD TO HANDLE.
SHE'S BEEN THAT WAY EVER SINCE.
IT'D MAKE YOU FEEL BAD, WOULDN'T IT, YOUR HUSBAND DEFENDING SOMEONE LIKE THAT?

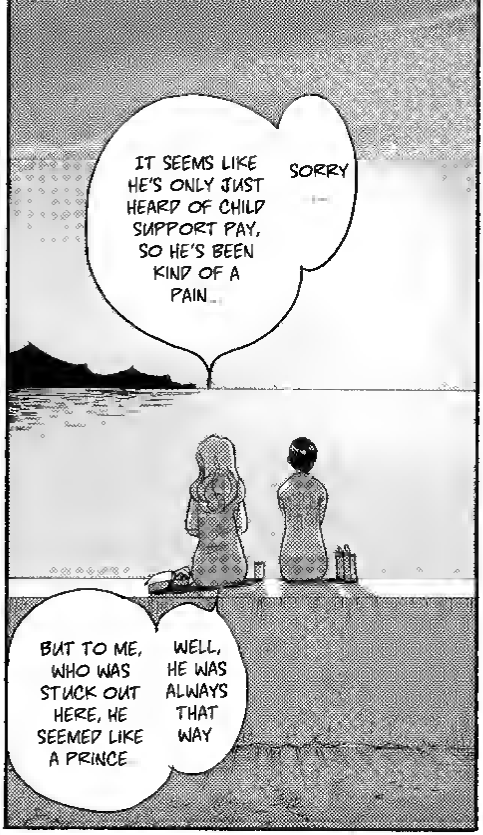
TAP
WELCOME!
AH
SFX: WWW
?
HE'S NOT A CUSTOMER
HE'S AIKA'S EX-HUSBAND.

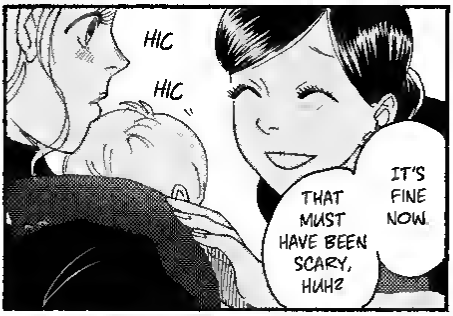
THEY'RE FIGHTING OVER THE CHILD
THE TWO OF THEM ARE TOO MUCH ALIKE
NO MATTER WHO TAKES THE CHILD, IT WON'T CHANGE ANYTHING
Wish they'd do it somewhere else
SO THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE HIDING, HUH AIKA?!
YOU CAME AGAIN?!
SLAM
BUT ...
DON'T INTERFERE
THE CHILD'S MINE!
I'M GONNA RAISE 'IM!
YOU DON'T EVEN WORK. HOW WILL YOU?!
THE ONLY REASON YOU EVEN CAME IS BECAUSE OF THE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENTS!
ARE YOU STUPID?! HOW MANY YEARS ARE YOU GONNA SPOUT THAT BULLSHIT BEFORE YOU WAKE UP?!
WHETHER IT'S YOUR HUSBAND OR YOUR CHILD, MONEY'S ALL YOU CARE ABOUT
YOU'RE JUST JEALOUS THAT I'M MORE TALENTED THAN YOU
THERE IT IS
MONEY AGAIN!

TAP TAP
TAP
MAMA!
AYATO!
AYATO!
SFX: GRAB
THAT HURTS, PAPA!
HUH, AYATO? YOU WANNA BE IN A FATHER-SON BAND WITH ME, RIGHT?!
IT'LL BE FUN! WE'LL BE SUPER POPULAR!
LET GO OF HIM!
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
GRAB

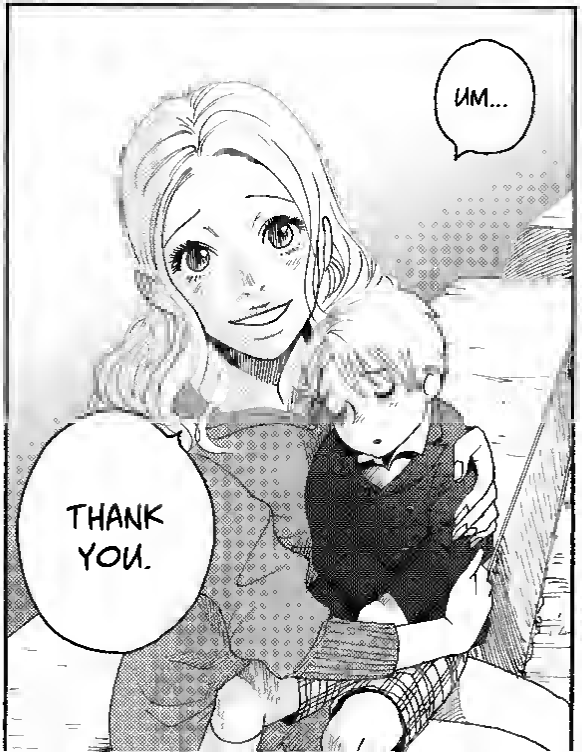
だっ
AYATO!
わあめ
あん
あ
びえええ
SFX: SNATCH, WAAAAAH!
SFX: WAAAAH!
THE HELL'S YOUR PROBLEM?
I'LL TEACH YOU TO INTERFERE...!

EEEEE!
CRAP.
I GOTTA CALL THE POLICE! THE POLICE!
AGGHH!
SNIFF
SNIFF
HUH?
GRIN

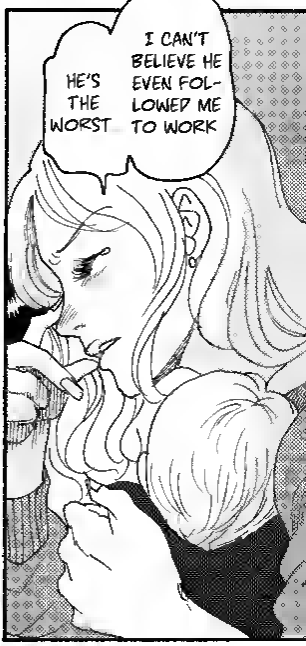

IT SEEMS LIKE HE'S ONLY JUST HEARD OF CHILD SUPPORT PAY, SO HE'S BEEN KIND OF A PAIN...
SORRY...
WELL, HE WAS ALWAYS THAT WAY
BUT TO ME, WHO WAS STUCK OUT HERE, HE SEEMED LIKE A PRINCE


HIC
HIC
THAT MUST HAVE BEEN SCARY, HUH?
IT'S FINE NOW.

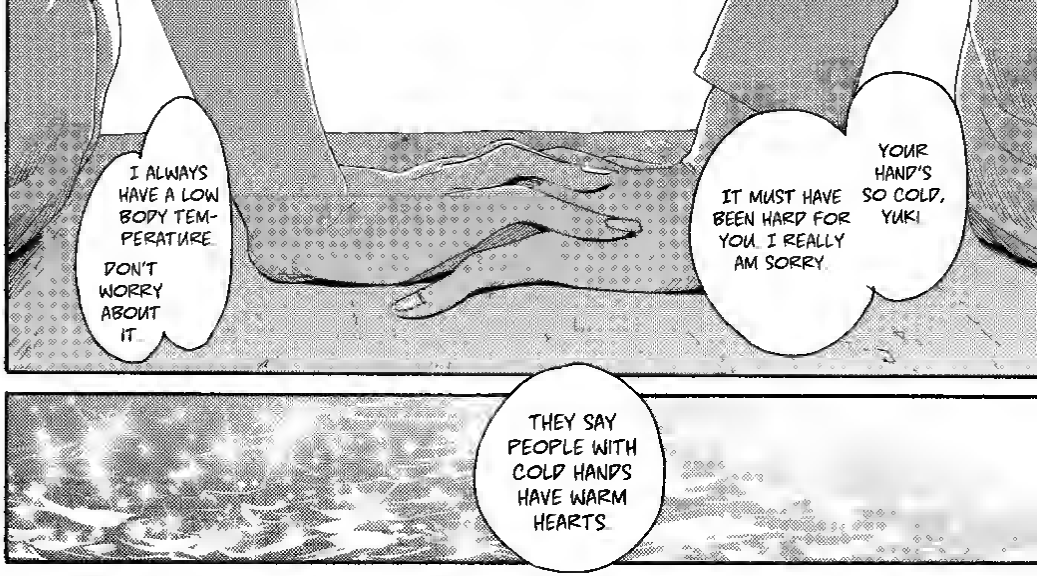
YUKI...
ARE YOU OKAY? YOU'RE NOT HURT?


UM...
THANK YOU.

I'M SURE HE WON'T COME AGAIN

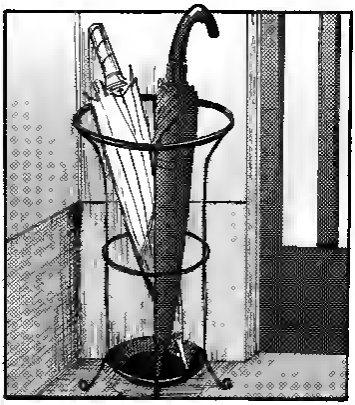

I CAN'T BELIEVE HE EVEN FOLLOWED ME TO WORK
HE'S THE WORST

I DON'T HAVE A SERIOUS HUSBAND LIKE SUZUMU, SO I COULDN'T MAKE A GOOD FAMILY. I WANTED TO PROTECT AYATO, BUT..
I'M NOT A GOOD PERSON LIKE YOU, YUKI.
I THINK YOU'RE A GOOD MOTHER, AIKA.
BESIDES, I'M NOT ALL THAT GREAT.
WELL, YOU KNOW. THAT'S HOW I AM.
EARLIER, I TOLD YOUR EX-HUSBAND...
THAT IF HE CAME AGAIN, I'D KILL HIM.
WHAT A RELIEF.
Ha ha ha ha!
Ha ha ha!
It felt good.
I'M PRETTY SURE HE'S NEVER GOING TO SHOW HIS FACE AGAIN

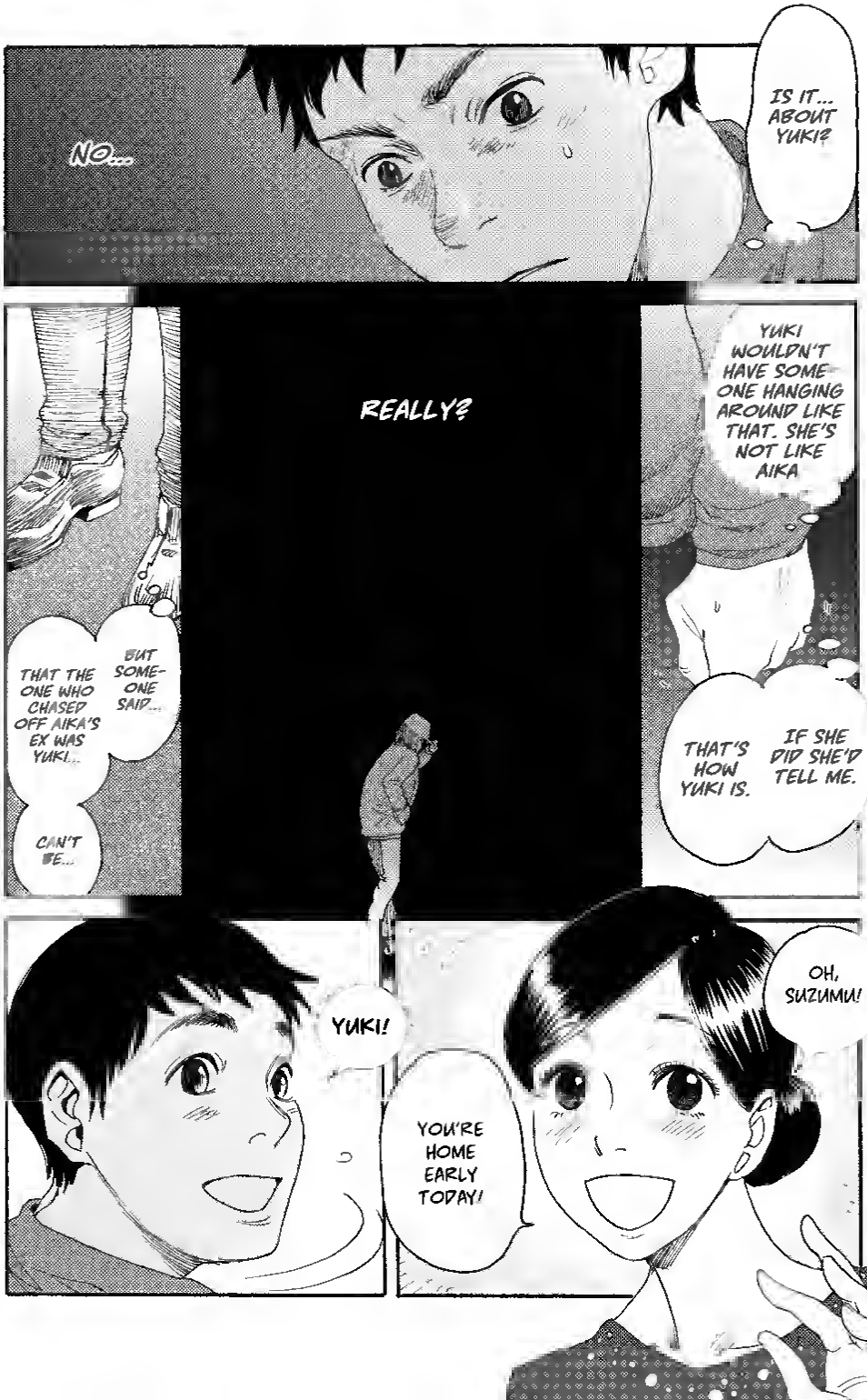

I ALWAYS HAVE A LOW BODY TEMPERATURE.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
IT MUST HAVE BEEN HARD FOR YOU. I REALLY AM SORRY.
YOUR HAND'S SO COLD, YUKI.

THEY SAY PEOPLE WITH COLD HANDS HAVE WARM HEARTS.

HMM...?



IS HE SCOPING THE PLACE OUT...?
CREAK
WHAT'S WITH THAT GUY?
I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM BEFORE.
DID YOU HEAR? AIKA'S EX-HUSBAND FOLLOWED HER HERE.
OH NO
SEEMS LIKE HE WANTED TO TAKE THE KID
I WONDER IF IT'S EVEN HIS
Heh heh.
HIM AGAIN...?
TAP TAP


NO...
IS IT... ABOUT YUKI?
REALLY?
YUKI WOULDN'T HAVE SOMEONE HANGING AROUND LIKE THAT. SHE'S NOT LIKE AIKA
THAT'S HOW YUKI IS.
IF SHE DID SHE'D TELL ME.
BUT SOMEONE SAID...
THAT THE ONE WHO CHASED OFF AIKA'S EX WAS YUKI...
CAN'T BE...
YUKI!
YOU'RE HOME EARLY TODAY!
OH, SUZUMU!

I'M JUST GETTING HOME MYSELF, TOO!
I DON'T WANT TO GET IN THE WAY
IT'S FINE, IT'S FINE
THIS IS GOOD TIMING, AIKA COME ON IN.
SEE YOU TOMOR-ROW!
SURE. TOMOR-ROW.
WELL, SEE YOU LATER
Oh?

I WANT YOU TO QUIT YOUR PART-TIME JOB.
YUKI,
I'LL GET STARTED ON DINNER.
WAIT A MINUTE
WHAT'S THIS ALL OF A SUDDEN?
WHAT?
YOU SHOULDN'T BE MAKING A FRIEND LIKE HER!
BUT I FINALLY MADE A FRIEND THERE AND EVERYTHING!
PEOPLE WILL START TO SAY THINGS ABOUT THE TWO OF US, TOO!

SFX: SLAM
Doh!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT PEOPLE USED TO SAY ABOUT HER?!
IT'S PRECISELY BECAUSE OF THAT!
EVER SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL, THAT SHE STAYED AT GUYS' HOUSES
THAT SHE WOULD SLEEP WITH ANYONE FOR MONEY
AND ALL OF THEM WERE IDIOTS, TOO
PEOPLE SAY THERE'S NO WAY OF KNOWING WHOSE KID THAT EVEN IS
THAT'S...
WEREN'T YOU CLOSE WHEN YOU WERE YOUNGER?
WHAT DOES IT MATTER IF IT'S TRUE OR NOT?!
TRUE...?
DOES SUZUMU KNOW WHAT THE TRUTH ABOUT AIKA IS, THEN?
IT'LL BE HARD FOR US TO KEEP ON LIVING HERE IF THAT HAPPENS, RIGHT?
THEY'LL NEVER STOP TALKING.

WATCHED AIKA WELL.
HE MUST HAVE...
YUKI,
YOU'RE NOT LIKE THAT, ARE YOU?
I'VE BEEN SEEING A WEIRD MAN HANGING AROUND
NOT LIKE AIKA. RIGHT?
"WHY..."
TO ME, THE WORDS MEANT SOMETHING DIFFERENT.
YOU'RE...
YOU'RE MY BELOVED WIFE.
BUT YOU'RE PRETTY, SKILLED, AND MEEK,

NO...
MY BODY...
GOT COLD...
"WHY...
AREN'T YOU AIKA?"
IT'S...
NOT ME, IS IT...?
HUH?

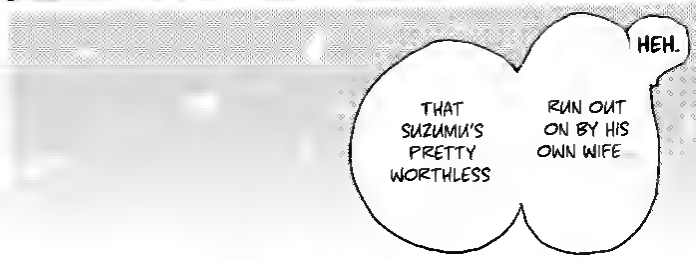
THE ONE...
YOU REALLY WANTED AS A WIFE
WAS ALWAYS AIKA
AH ...
TH,
THAT'S NOT IT!
IT'S YOU!

IT'S .
TOO LATE
I CAN'T...
STAY IN THIS PLACE ANY MORE...
I'D END UP KILLING YOU...
IF I DID,

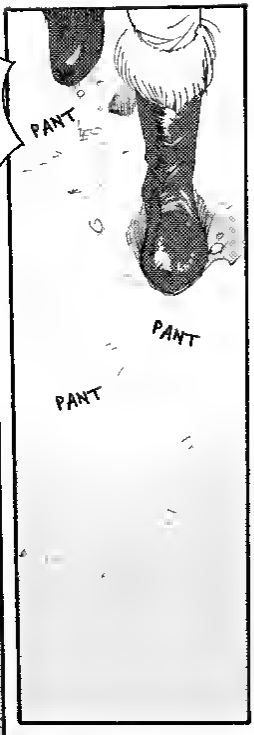
SFX: FWOOSH

GOOD-
BYE...
YU...

SHE NEVER MENTIONED WHERE SHE WAS FROM DIDN'T YOU THINK THAT WAS WEIRD?
THERE WAS ALWAYS SOMETHING OFF ABOUT HER, HUH?
SPEAKING OF WHICH
WELL, SHE WAS AN OUTSIDER, AFTER ALL.
SERIOUSLY? WHY?!
SUZUMU'S WIFE RAN OFF?


HEH.
THAT SUZUMU'S PRETTY WORTHLESS
RUN OUT ON BY HIS OWN WIFE

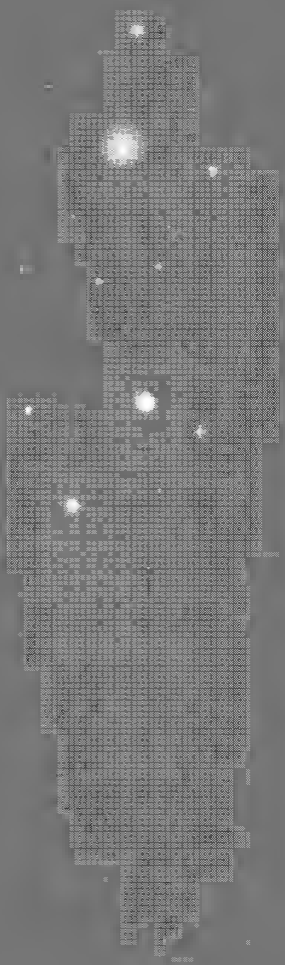
SUZUMU!


PANT
PANT
PANT

WHAT ABOUT THE POLICE?
NO
DO YOU KNOW WHERE?!
NO
IS IT TRUE THAT YUKI'S GONE?
YEAH

IT'S PERFECTLY FINE
IT'S... FINE NOW...
ARE YOU OKAY?
SFX SHIVER X3
H, HEY!
UH... AH!
HANG IN THERE,
OKAY?
WHISPER
WHISPER
WHISPER
WHISPER

...
TCH.
SHNK
SHNK
SHNK



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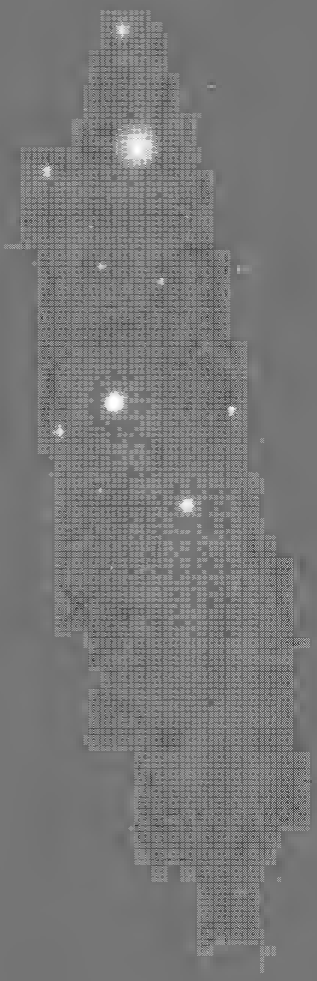
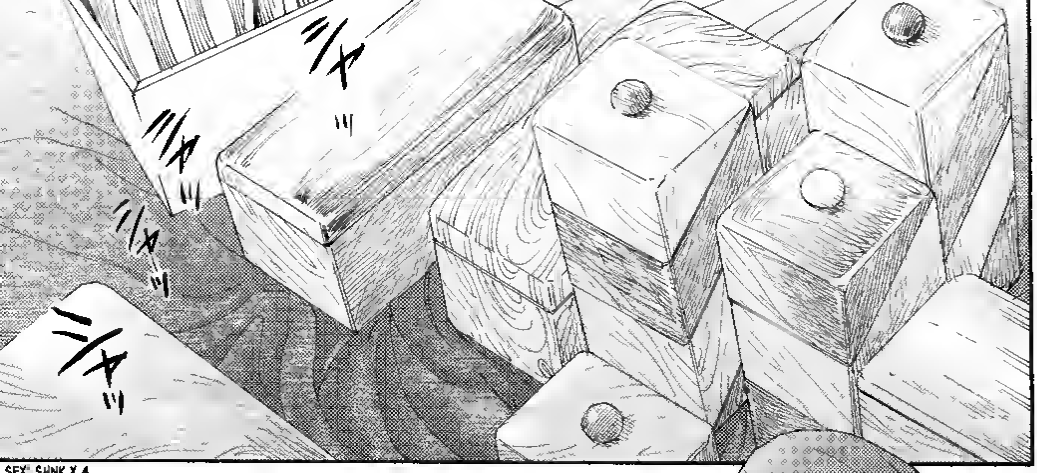
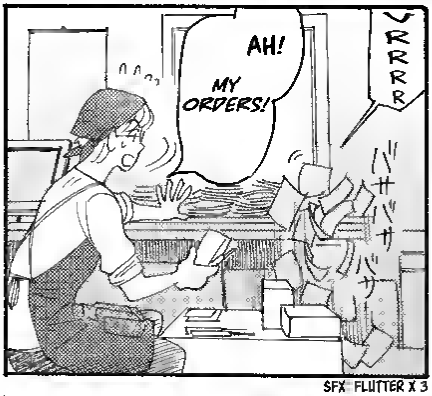


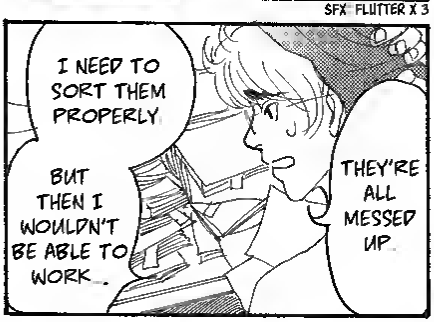


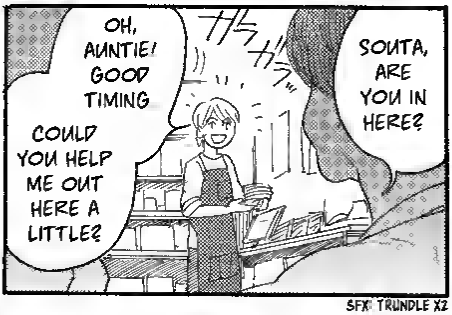
SFX: SHNK X 4



SFX: FLUTTER X 3

SFX: SHNK X 4



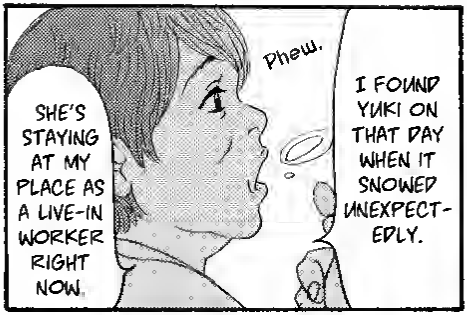


SFX: TRUNDLE X2

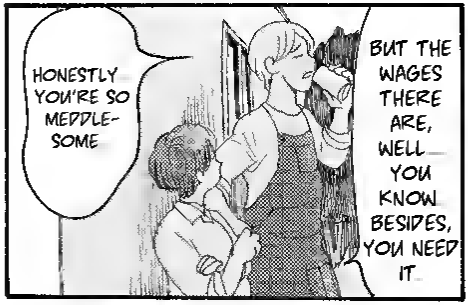
UH...
HELLO THERE

Chapter 2

YOU MADE ALL THESE YOURSELF?
THAT'S AMAZING!
Wow!
YEAH IT'S MY SPECIALTY, SO I DO EVERYTHING FROM PICKING THE WOOD TO FINISHING THEM
DON'T WORRY. I'LL JUST SORT THEM OUT A LITTLE.
AH, DON'T JUST PICK IT ALL UP.
YOU'LL GET IT MIXED UP!
SURE, I DON'T MIND!
ISN'T IT? BUT, YUKI, THIS IS WHY I NEED YOU TO HELP HIM.
LOOK AT THAT MOUNTAIN OF PAPERWORK!


Phew.
I FOUND YUKI ON THAT DAY WHEN IT SNOWED UNEXPECTEDLY.
SHE'S STAYING AT MY PLACE AS A LIVE-IN WORKER RIGHT NOW.

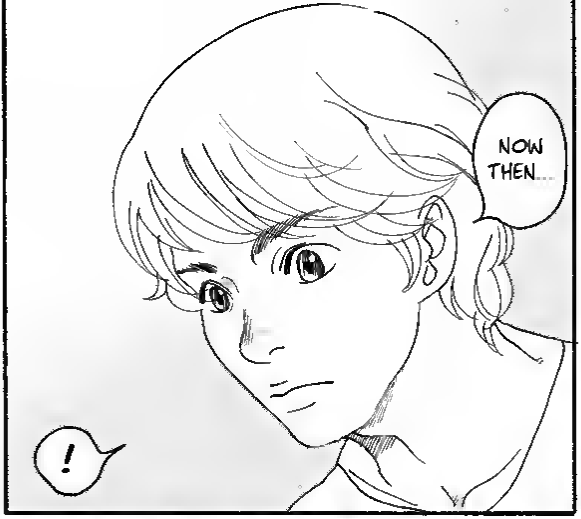
WHY DO YOU DO THIS, AUNTIE?
YOU WERE SAYING YOU WANTED A CLERK.

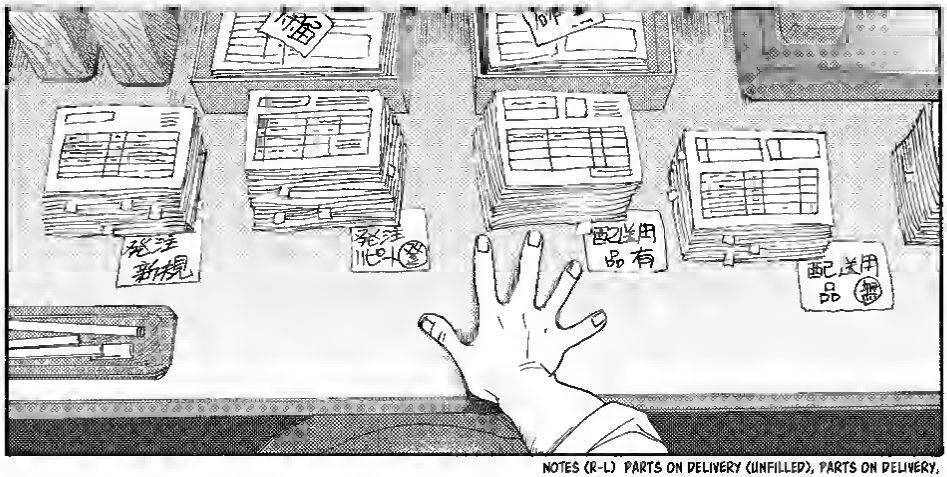

BUT THE WAGES THERE ARE, WELL... YOU KNOW. BESIDES, YOU NEED IT.
HONESTLY YOU'RE SO MEDDLESOME

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? MY MEDDLING'S HELPED YOU OUT PLENTY OF TIMES BEFORE, HASN'T IT?
AND SHE'S A GOOD KID. MAKE USE OF HER!

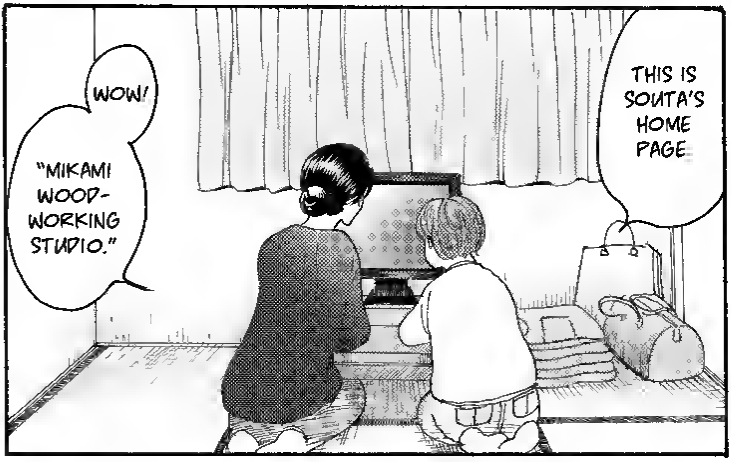
UM, I'LL BE GOING HOME NOW.
AH, SURE
I'LL COME TOO

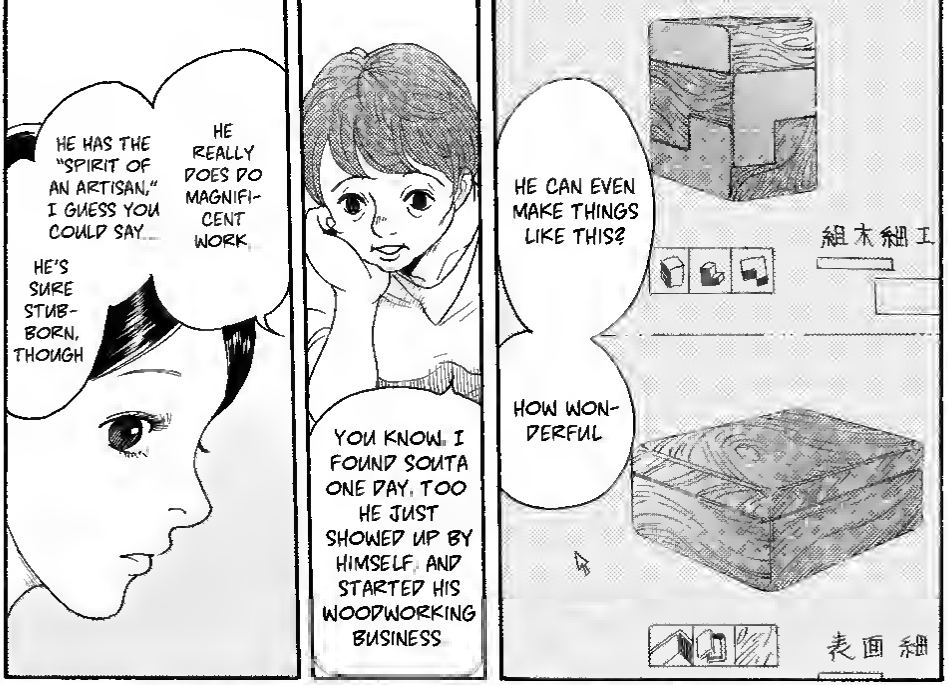
NO WAY.
I DON'T NEED A NOVICE LIKE HER WHO DOESN'T KNOW A THING ABOUT THE WORK



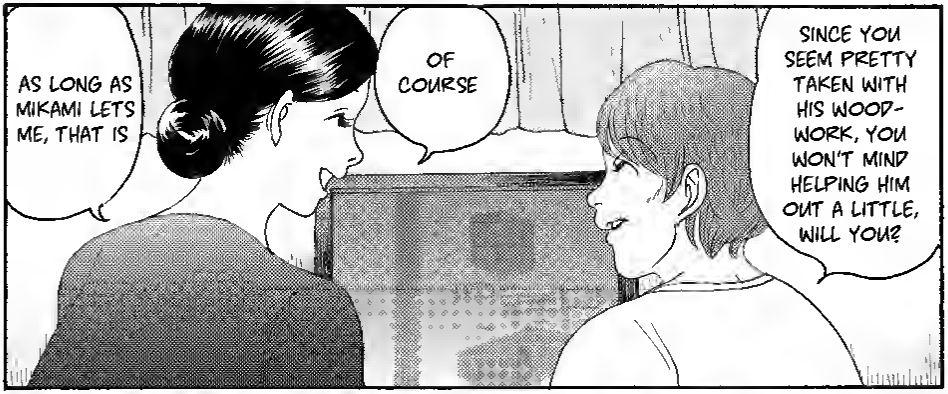


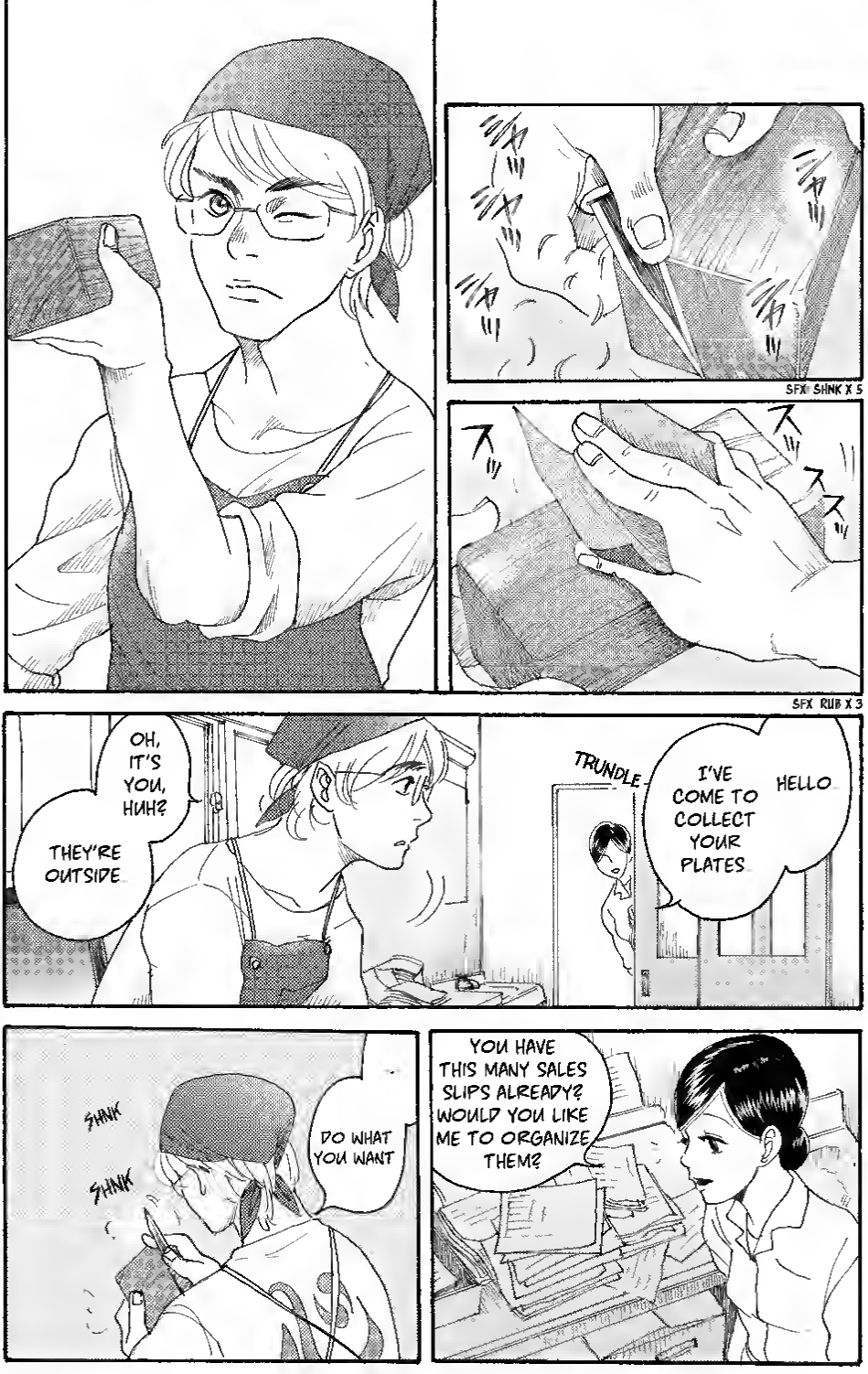
NOTES (R-L) PARTS ON DELIVERY (UNFILLED), PARTS ON DELIVERY, REPEAT ORDERS (REGISTERED), FIRST-TIME ORDERS



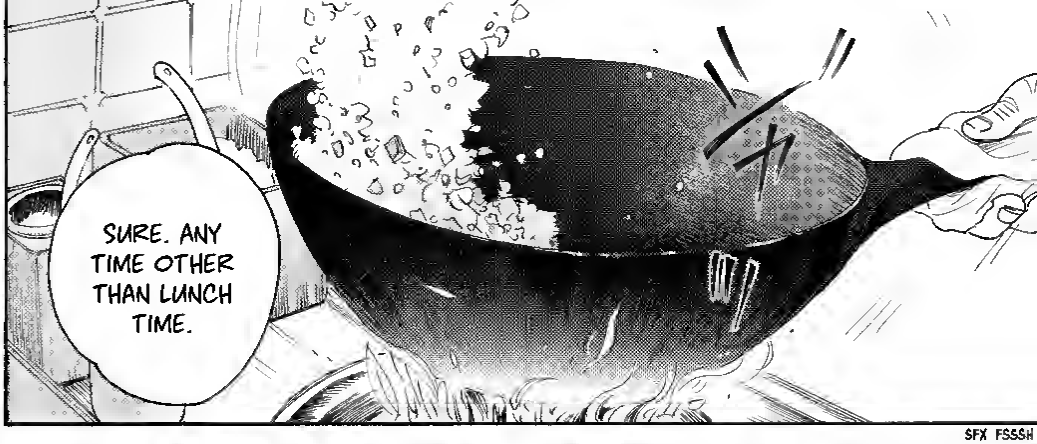

HE REALLY DOES DO MAGNIFICENT WORK.
HE HAS THE "SPIRIT OF AN ARTISAN," I GUESS YOU COULD SAY...
HE'S SURE STUBBORN, THOUGH
YOU KNOW, I FOUND SOUTA ONE DAY, TOO HE JUST SHOWED UP BY HIMSELF, AND STARTED HIS WOODWORKING BUSINESS
HE CAN EVEN MAKE THINGS LIKE THIS?
組木細工
HOW WONDERFUL
表面 細

LABELS: INTERLOCKING WOOD CONSTRUCTION, SMOOTHED SURFACE

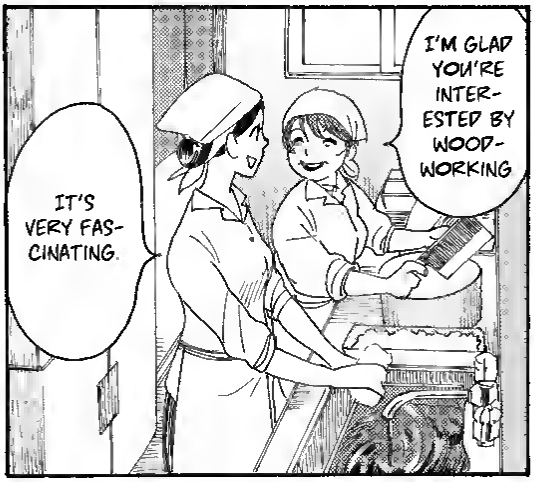

AS LONG AS MIKAMI LETS ME, THAT IS
OF COURSE
SINCE YOU SEEM PRETTY TAKEN WITH HIS WOODWORK, YOU WON'T MIND HELPING HIM OUT A LITTLE, WILL YOU?


SFX: SHNK X 5
SFX: RUB X 3
OH, IT'S YOU, HUH?
THEY'RE OUTSIDE.
TRUNDLE
I'VE COME TO COLLECT YOUR PLATES.
HELLO.
SHNK
SHNK
DO WHAT YOU WANT
YOU HAVE THIS MANY SALES SLIPS ALREADY? WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO ORGANIZE THEM?

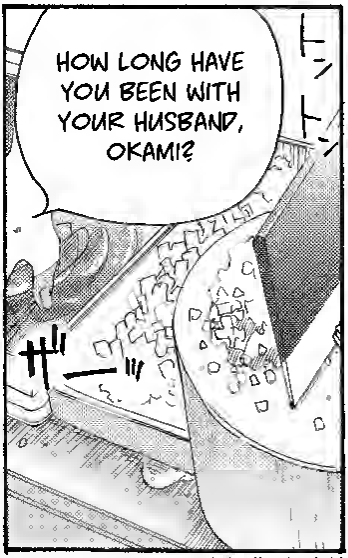
SHE'S PRETTY QUIET...
RUB
RUB
RUB
RUB
OKAY, THAT'S ALL OF THEM.
I'LL BE GOING NOW.
ALL DONE.
Phew.
YUKI, WASN'T IT?
WILL YOU BE COMING BY TOMOR-ROW?



SFX: FSSSH



SFX: PWISH, CHOP X 7



SFX: WHACK X2, FSSSH

WHAT ABOUT YOU, YUKI?
SHOULDN'T YOU FIND SOMEONE YOU CARE ABOUT QUICKLY?
DO YOU STILL LOVE EACH OTHER?
WHAT'S WITH YOU ALL OF A SUDDEN?
AND WHO KNOWS
I'LL...
BE SEARCHING FOR A MAN LIKE THAT UNTIL I DIE...
UNTIL YOU DIE?
SHOULDN'T YOU APPROACH IT A LITTLE LESS SERIOUSLY?

THAT'S ALL WE HAVE FOR TODAY.
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP.
YOU BET! ANY TIME!
SIGN MIKAMI WOOD-WORKING STUDIO
VAN EXPRESS MAIL
特配便
YOU JUST FOCUS ON CREATING BEAUTIFUL PIECES, SOUTA
LOOKS LIKE I'LL BE PULLING AN ALL-NIGHTER
SORRY, BUT CAN I ASK YOU TO DO ALL THE ODD JOBS?
HOW ARE YOU DOING ON THE THINGS THAT NEED TO BE SENT OUT TOMORROW?
SOUTA,
HMM.

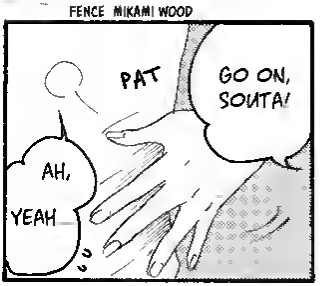
I DIDN'T DO ANY-THING.
IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF YOUR TECHNIQUE, SOUTA.
IT'S THANKS TO YOU, YUKI.
YOU'VE BEEN HERE HALF A YEAR NOW, HUH?
MY TECH-NIQUE, HUH?
I MEAN, LOOK HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE WAITING.
ORDER FORM
MY TECH-NIQUE...
IS JUST WHAT I'VE LEARNED FROM MY FATHER.
I WANTED TO MAKE THINGS MY WAY.
BUT I HATED THAT ALL WE EVER MADE WAS MASS-PRODUCED MATERIALS.
MY FAMILY HAS OPERATED A LUMBER MILL FOR AGES.
MY FATHER PLANNED TO PASS IT DOWN TO ME, I'M SURE.
HE DISINHER-ITED ME, AND I RAN AWAY.
I'M GLAD I CAME HERE,
BUT AT FIRST IT DIDN'T GO VERY WELL
BUILDING SAFETY IS PRIORITY NUMBER ONE
BUILDING MIKAMI WOODWORKING

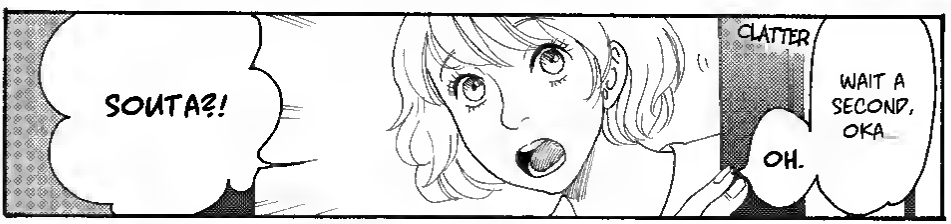
I'D LOVE FOR YOU TO STAY WITH ME FOREVER!
IF YOU DON'T MIND, YUKI,
YOU REALLY SAVED ME
THAT'S WHY, YUKI...
IT'S REALLY THANKS TO YOU!
I CAN'T REALLY DO ANYTHING OUTSIDE OF WOODWORK-ING...
I'D LIKE THAT
OH! SOUTA SURE HAS CHANGED!
HE'S BEEN MUCH MORE PERSONABLE LATELY!
HUH!
A WOOD-WORKING CLASS FOR PARENTS WITH KIDS, HUH?
A CLASS AT MIKAMI STUDIO?
WHY NOT TRY YOUR HAND AT WOODWORKING WITH YOUR CHILD?
MIKAMI WOODWORKING STUDIO

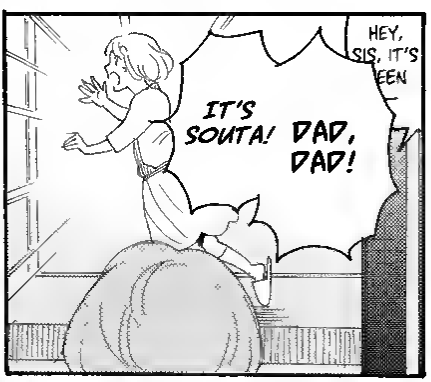
IT MUST BE BECAUSE OF YUKI.
ARE THOSE THIS WEEK'S SALES SLIPS, YUKI?
YEP.
HMM I SEE
IF I TAKE ALL OF THESE..
FLIP
FLIP
注文書
GASP

MY FATHER...
注文書
三上 漂 様
ML-12
NO-313
MK-26
WHAT IS IT?
PAPER ORDER FORM, MIKAMI HAJIME, ITEM, QUANTITY
FROM THE ONLINE SHOP...
DID HE ORDER IT BECAUSE HE KNOWS IT'S ME?
NO, IT MIGHT BE A COINCIDENCE.
YOUR FATHER?
YEAH. THERE'S NO MISTAKING IT.
THIS ORDER'S FROM MY FATHER
SOUTA,
WHY DON'T WE DELIVER IT OURSELVES?!
Hmmm...

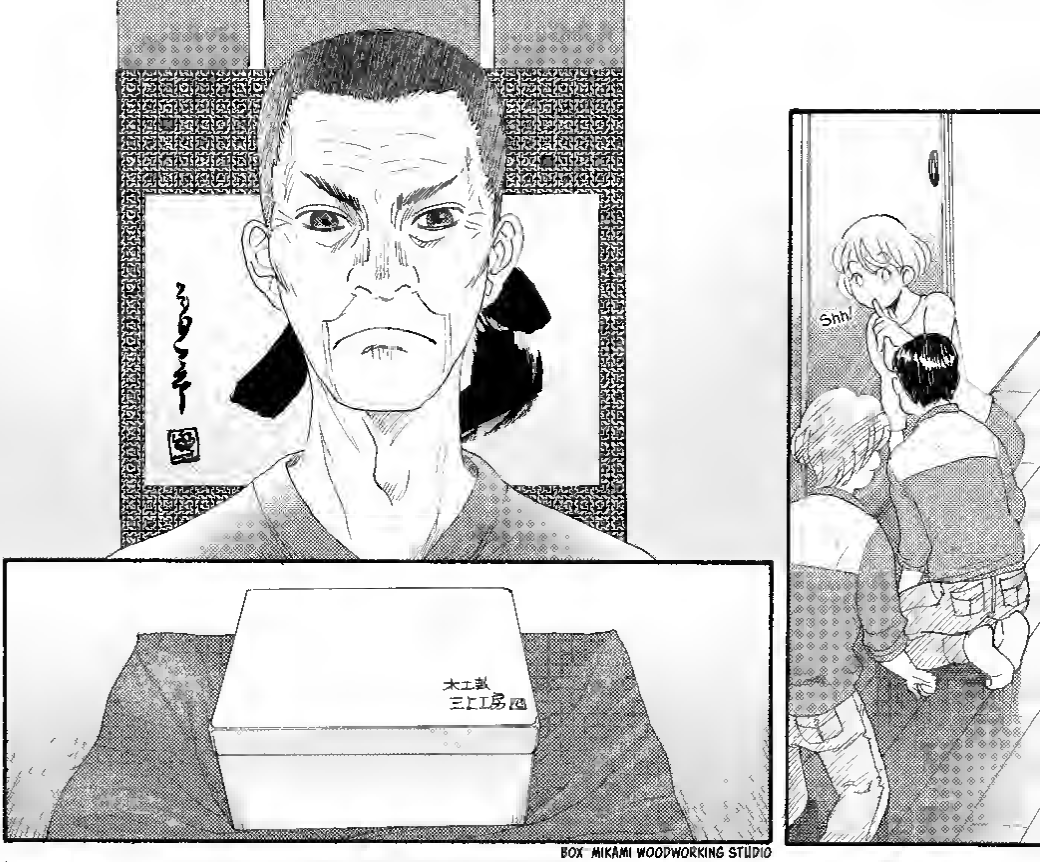
BUILDING SAFETY IS PRIORITY NUMBER ONE
BUILDING MIKAMI WOODWORKING
FENCE MIKAMI WOOD



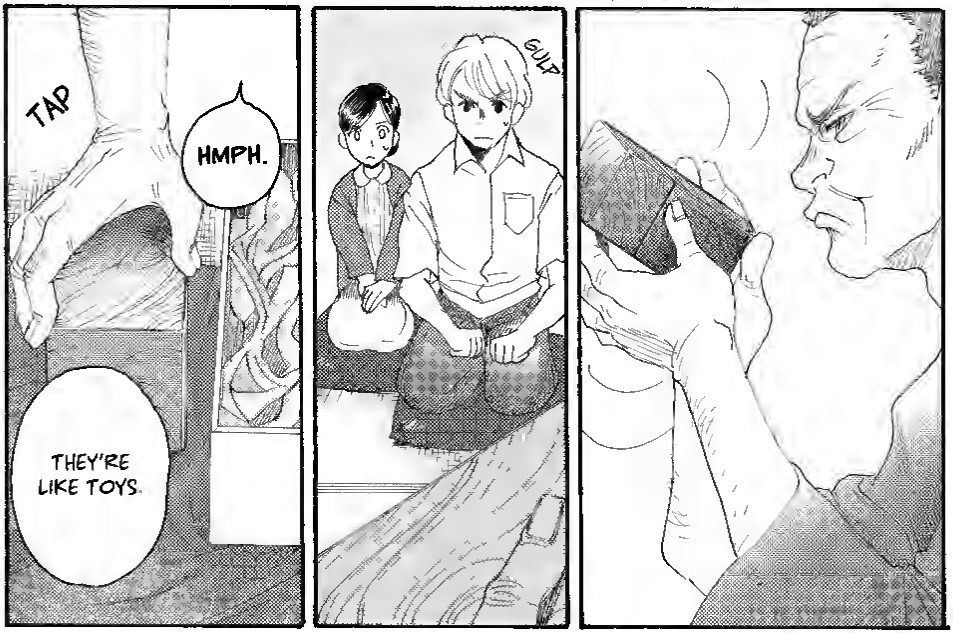




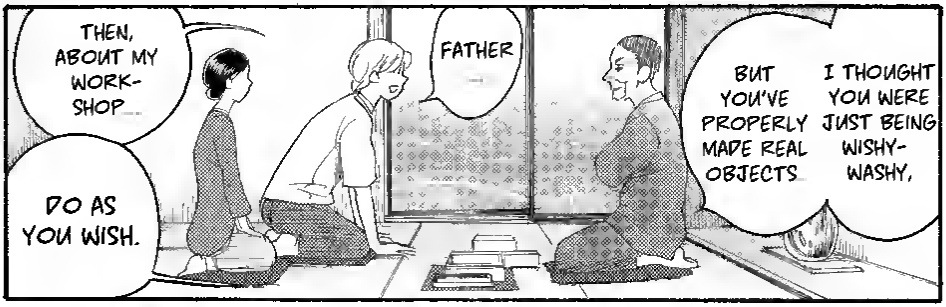
SFX
SLAM X2,
BAM,
WHAM,
TRUNDLE X3



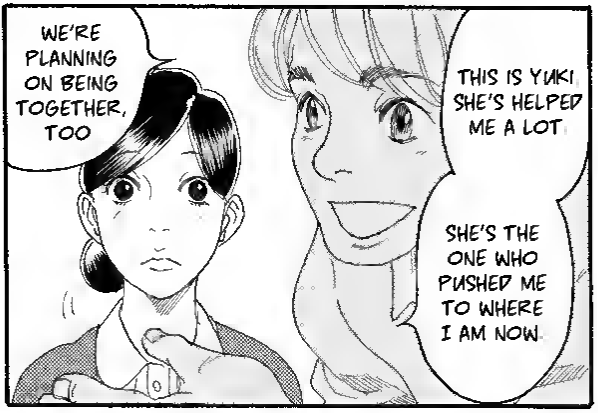
BOX MIKAMI WOODWORKING STUDIO



BUT THEY'RE WELL DONE, SOUTA.

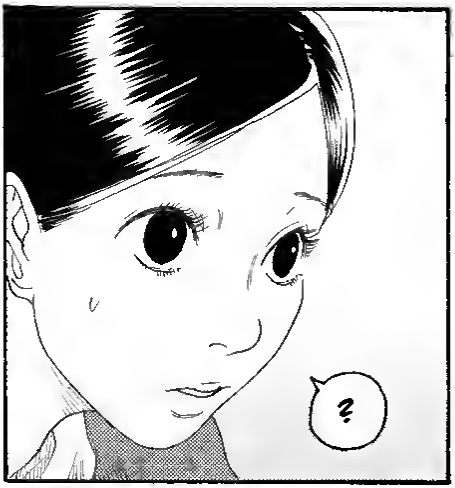

THEN, ABOUT MY WORK-SHOP...
DO AS YOU WISH.
FATHER...
BUT YOU'VE PROPERLY MADE REAL OBJECTS.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST BEING WISHY-WASHY.

NICE TO MEET YOU


WE'RE PLANNING ON BEING TOGETHER, TOO
THIS IS YUKI. SHE'S HELPED ME A LOT.
SHE'S THE ONE WHO PUSHED ME TO WHERE I AM NOW.

YOU LOT! GET SOME FOOD READY! AND A ROOM!
Eek!
Ah!
UH, YEAH!

WELL, TAKE IT SLOW TODAY, OKAY?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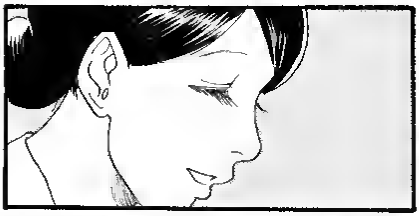
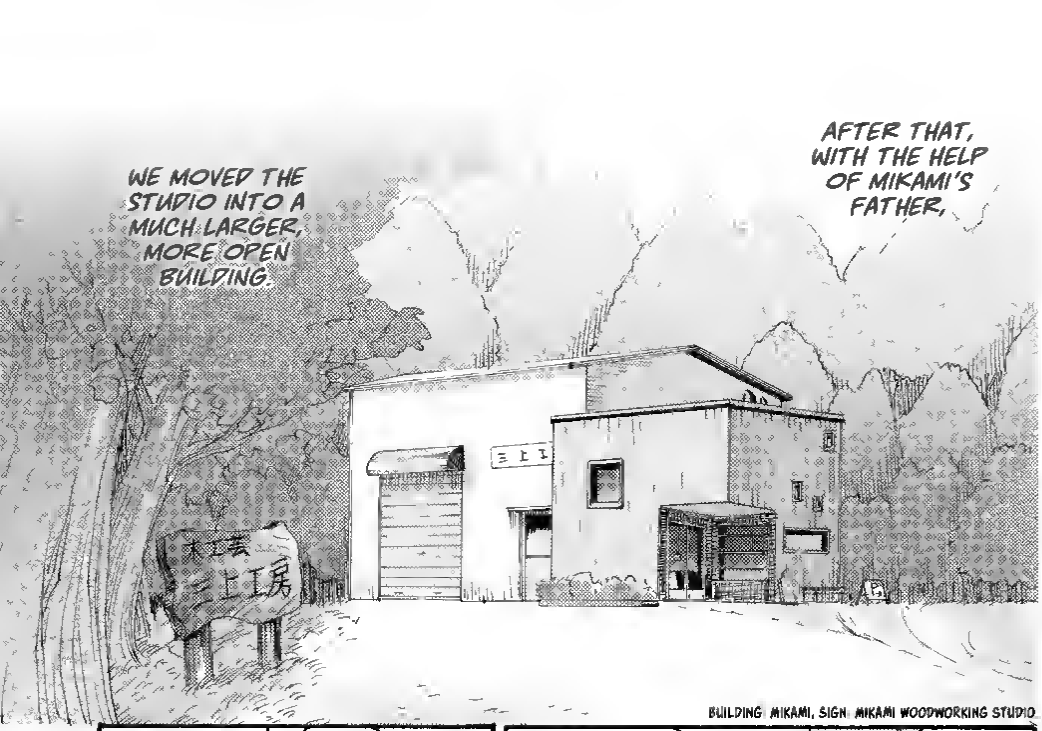
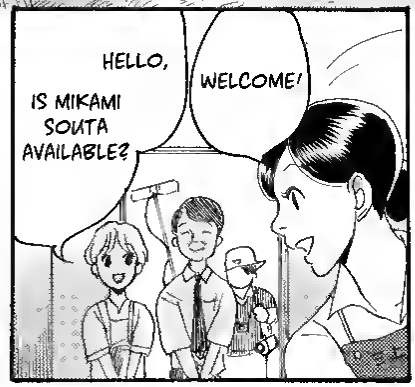
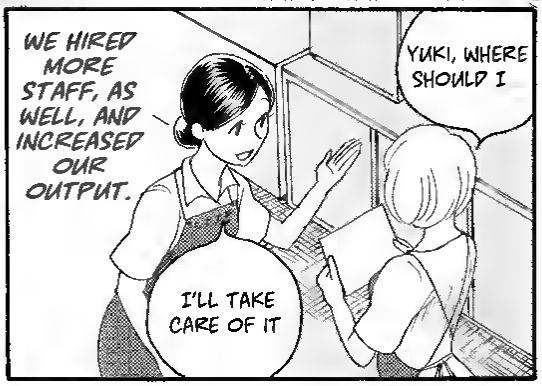


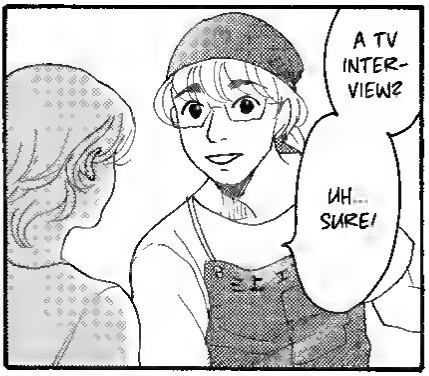
わい
わい
SFX
CHATTER X2



BUILDING: MIKAMI, SIGN: MIKAMI WOODWORKING STUDIO



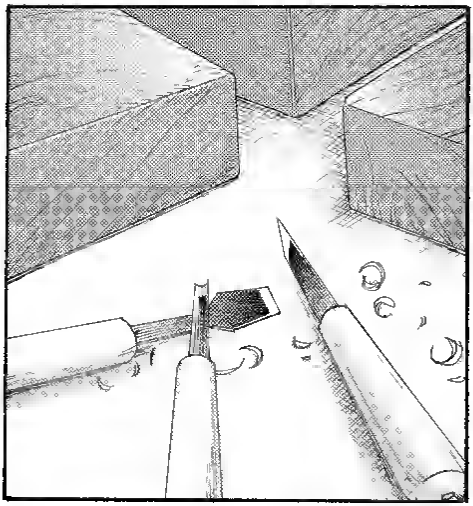


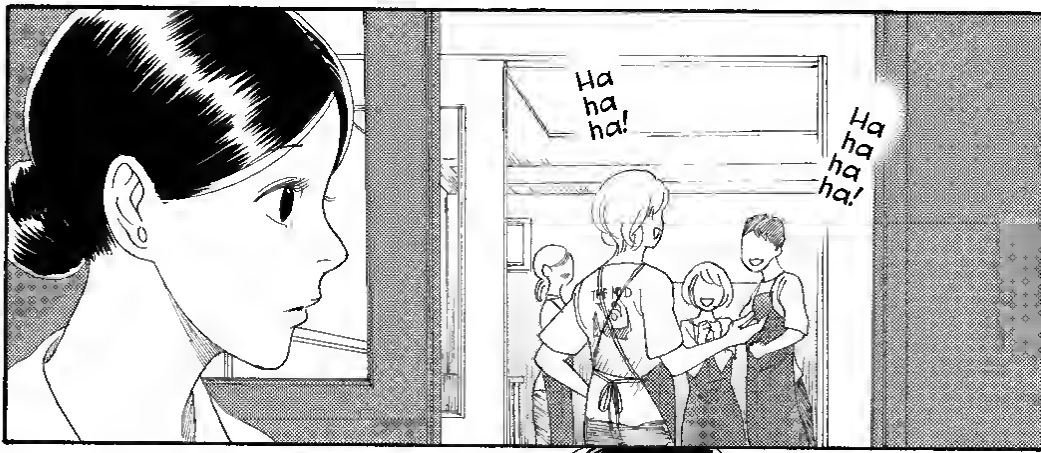


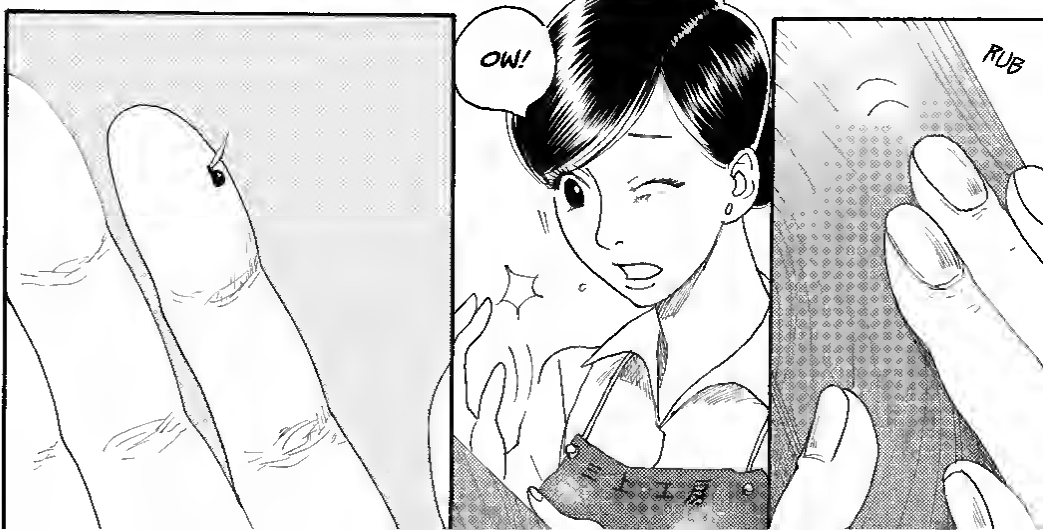
TODAY, WE'RE VISITING A VERY POPULAR WOODWORKING STUDIO!
QUICK REPORT!
WE'RE VISITING THE WOOD-WORKING STUDIO OF CRAFTSMAN MIKAMI SOUTA
WOW! ALL THE PIECES HERE ARE AMAZING!
IT SEEMS AT FIRST THAT MIKAMI JUST SOLD THINGS ONLINE,
BUT THEY'VE BECOME SO POPULAR THEY NOW SELL THINGS IN THEIR STORE, TOO.
I JUST WANTED PEOPLE FROM MY HOMETOWN TO HAVE MORE EXPERIENCE WITH WOOD-WORKING.
WE OFFER CLASSES TOO
WOW! CLASSES, HUH?

WE HAVE A MAP SHOWING OUR LOCATION ON OUR HOME PAGE, SO I INVITE ANYONE WHO'S INTERESTED TO STOP BY!
SAY THE ADDRESS!
THE ADDRESS!
FLAP
FLAP
THE RED UMBRELLA IS GONE
WHILE THE SNOW STILL FELL I FOUND A TAXI DRIVER WHO SAID HE'D SEEN A WOMAN WALKING WITH A RED UMBRELLA HE SAID HE'D SEEN HER HEADING OUT OF TOWN, BUT I COULDN'T FIND HER
I SAW YUKI ON TV
IT WAS ON THE QUICK REPORT PROGRAM AT A WOODWORKING STUDIO
THE ADDRESS
THANKS FOR YOUR BUSINESS!
SFX TRUNDLE X2
GUESS IT MUST HAVE TASTED BAD—

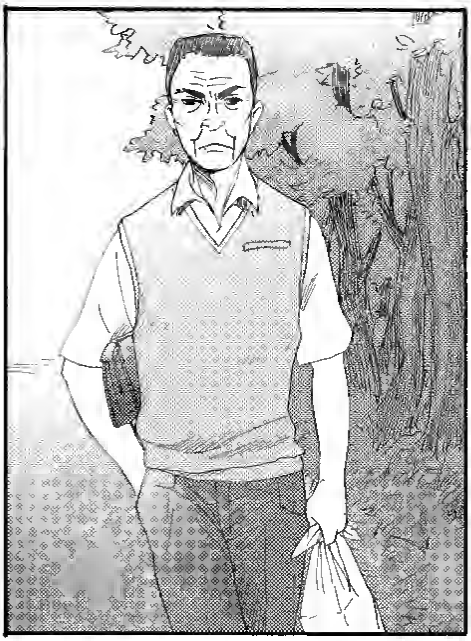
THESE TOOLS ARE JUST LYING AROUND...

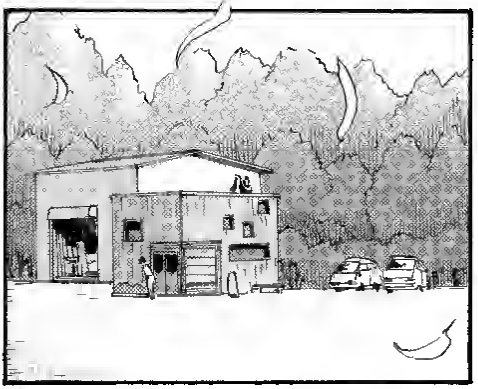


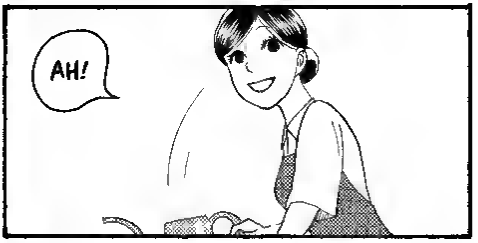

Ha ha ha!
Ha ha ha ha!

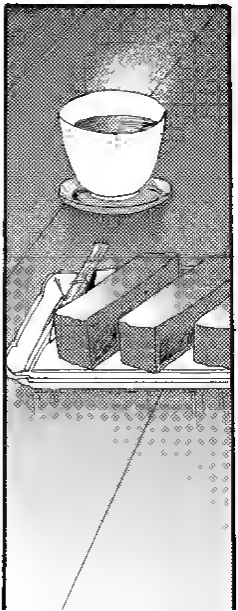

OW!
RUB

RUSTLE





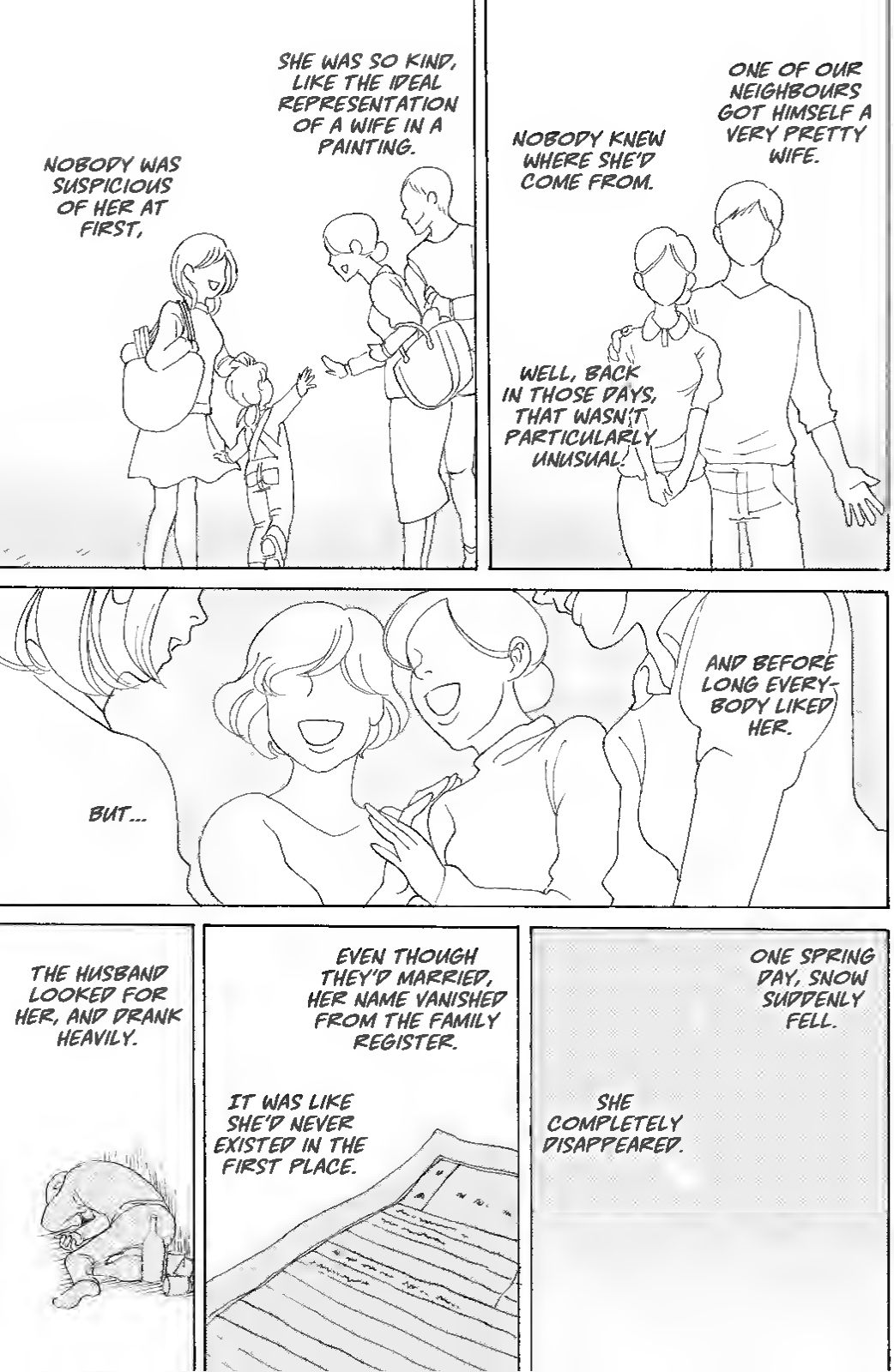

AH!



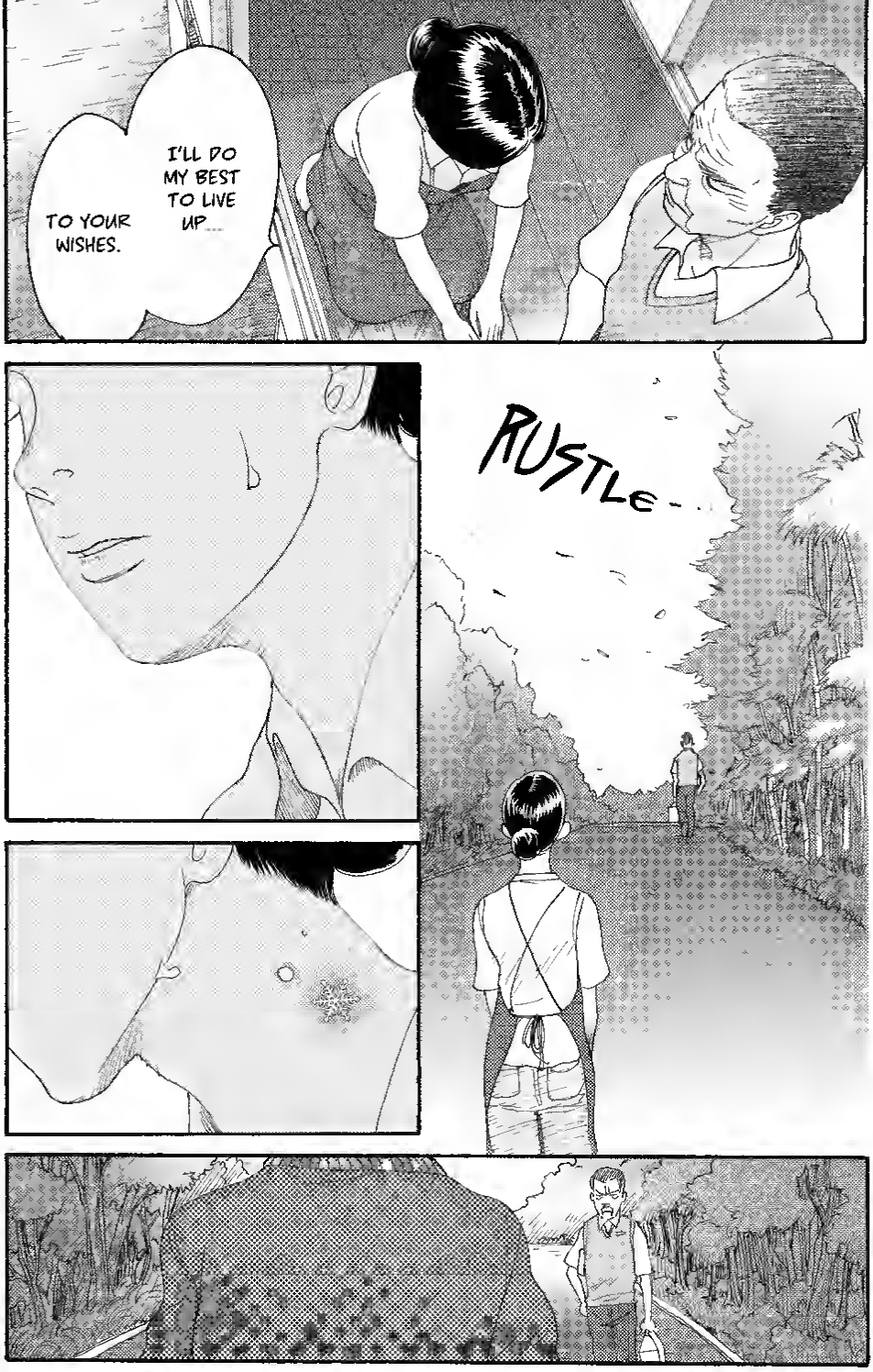
PLEASE COME IN!
HE SHOULD BE BACK SOON, THOUGH.
HE'S OUT ON A DELIVERY RIGHT NOW.

HELLO, MR MIKAMI!
WEL-COME!
IS SOUTA HERE?

YEP.
IT'S YUKI, RIGHT?
I KNOW SOMEONE WHO LOOKS A LOT LIKE YOU.
EXCUSE ME?
TAP
WELL, THIS WAS WHEN I WAS ONLY TEN YEARS OLD.

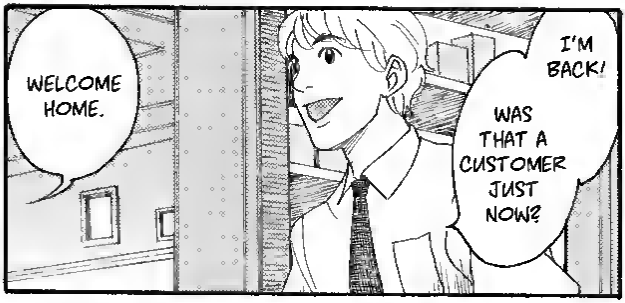

NOBODY WAS SUSPICIOUS OF HER AT FIRST,
SHE WAS SO KIND, LIKE THE IDEAL REPRESENTATION OF A WIFE IN A PAINTING.
NOBODY KNEW WHERE SHE'D COME FROM.
ONE OF OUR NEIGHBOURS GOT HIMSELF A VERY PRETTY WIFE.
WELL, BACK IN THOSE DAYS, THAT WASN'T PARTICULARLY UNUSUAL.
BUT...
AND BEFORE LONG EVERY-BODY LIKED HER.
THE HUSBAND LOOKED FOR HER, AND DRANK HEAVILY.
EVEN THOUGH THEY'D MARRIED, HER NAME VANISHED FROM THE FAMILY REGISTER.
IT WAS LIKE SHE'D NEVER EXISTED IN THE FIRST PLACE.
ONE SPRING DAY, SNOW SUDDENLY FELL.
SHE COMPLETELY DISAPPEARED.

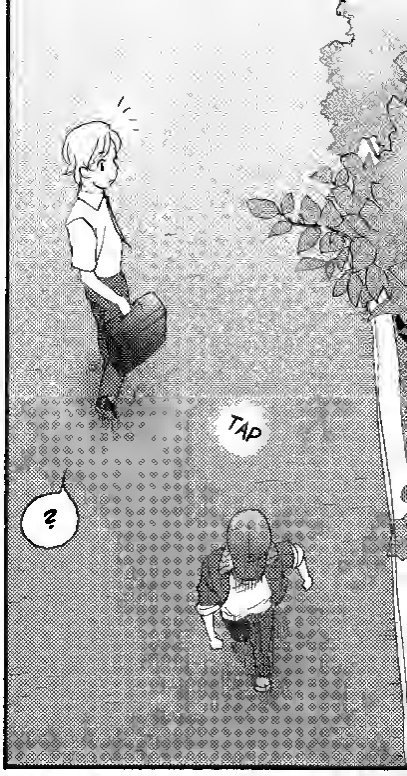
EVERY-BODY....
BEGAN TO MUTTER THAT PERHAPS SHE HADN'T BEEN HUMAN.
BUT WHEN THE SNOW MELTED AWAY, THE RUMORS STOPPED.
IT WAS AS THOUGH EVERYBODY HAD FOR-GOTTEN HER COM-PLETELY.
FOR SOME REASON, I WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO RE-MEMBERED. I DON'T KNOW WHY.
WELL, IT WAS A LONG TIME AGO.
MAKE SOUTA HAPPY. THAT'S ALL I ASK OF YOU.

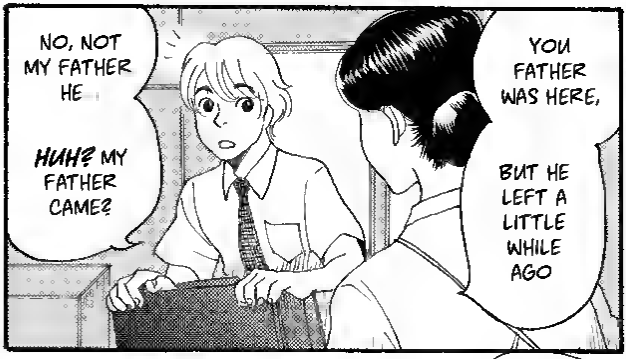

I'LL DO MY BEST TO LIVE UP...
TO YOUR WISHES.
RUSTLE...

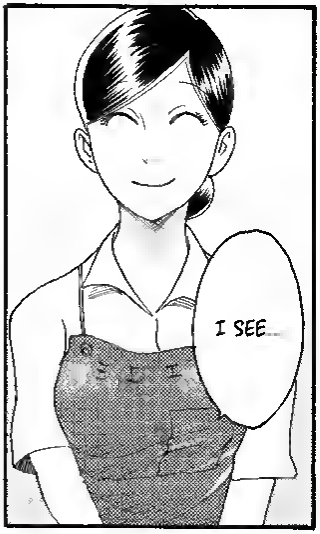
YEAH. IT'S JUST UP AHEAD. CAN'T MISS IT
EXCUSE ME,
IS MIKAMI WOODWORKING AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE?
THANKS.

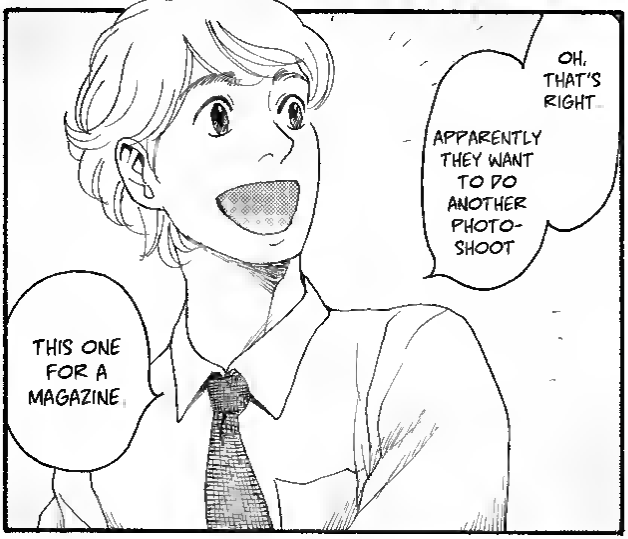
TRUNDLE


I'M BACK!
WELCOME HOME.
WAS THAT A CUSTOMER JUST NOW?


TAP
?


YOU FATHER WAS HERE,
BUT HE LEFT A LITTLE WHILE AGO
NO, NOT MY FATHER HE
HUH? MY FATHER CAME?

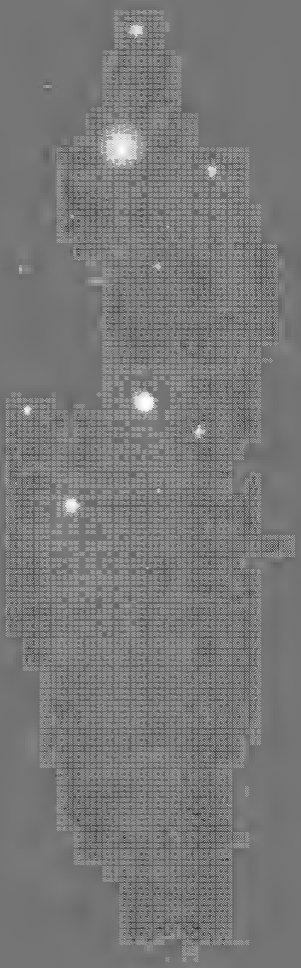

I SEE


OH, THAT'S RIGHT
APPARENTLY THEY WANT TO DO ANOTHER PHOTO-SHOOT
THIS ONE FOR A MAGAZINE

RUSTLE X 3

I KEEP SEEING THAT GUY AROUND HERE LATELY...
AH, HELLO THERE!
THE STORE'S OPEN, SO COME ON IN!
I'VE SEEN HIM TOO.
I GUESS IT'S BECAUSE OF THE TV PROGRAM, HUH?
HE'S A LITTLE SCARY
MANAGER
WHAT IS?
THERE'S BEEN, LIKE, THIS WEIRD GUY HANGING AROUND LATELY?
AT FIRST I THOUGHT HE WAS A CUSTOMER, BUT ..
HE'S GOTTA BE A THIEF OR SOMETHING, RIGHT?
I'VE SEEN HIM TOO
IF WE TALK TO HIM, HE LEAVES

I WONDER IF WE SHOULD TELL THE POLICE.
I WOULDN'T WORRY ABOUT IT THAT MUCH
I MEAN, NOTHING'S HAPPENED, RIGHT?
ANYWAY, BE CAREFUL, YUKI.
SURE. ALTHOUGH I HAVEN'T EVEN SEEN HIM...
WHY IS YUKI THE ONLY ONE WHO HASN'T SEEN HIM?
DON'T TELL ME...
YOU HAVEN'T?
NO



Snow Woman Fantasy:
Chronicles of Michiyuki
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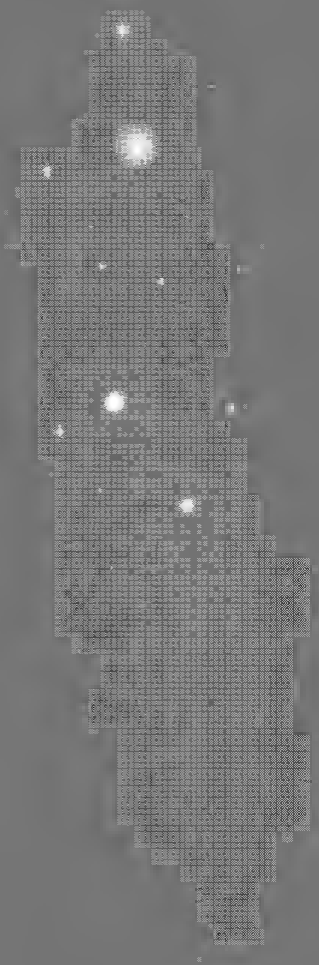


"EVERYBODY BEGAN TO MUTTER THAT PERHAPS SHE HADN'T BEEN HUMAN."
HE'S TOLD THAT STORY TO SOUTA.
I WONDER IF...
WHY IS HE INTER-FERING?
FSSSSH
I JUST DON'T KNOW.
I DON'T KNOW...

ALL I WANT IS TO FIND A HUMAN WHO WILL ACCEPT ME AS THEIR WIFE FOR THEIR ENTIRE LIFE.
I SHOULD...
MAYBE...

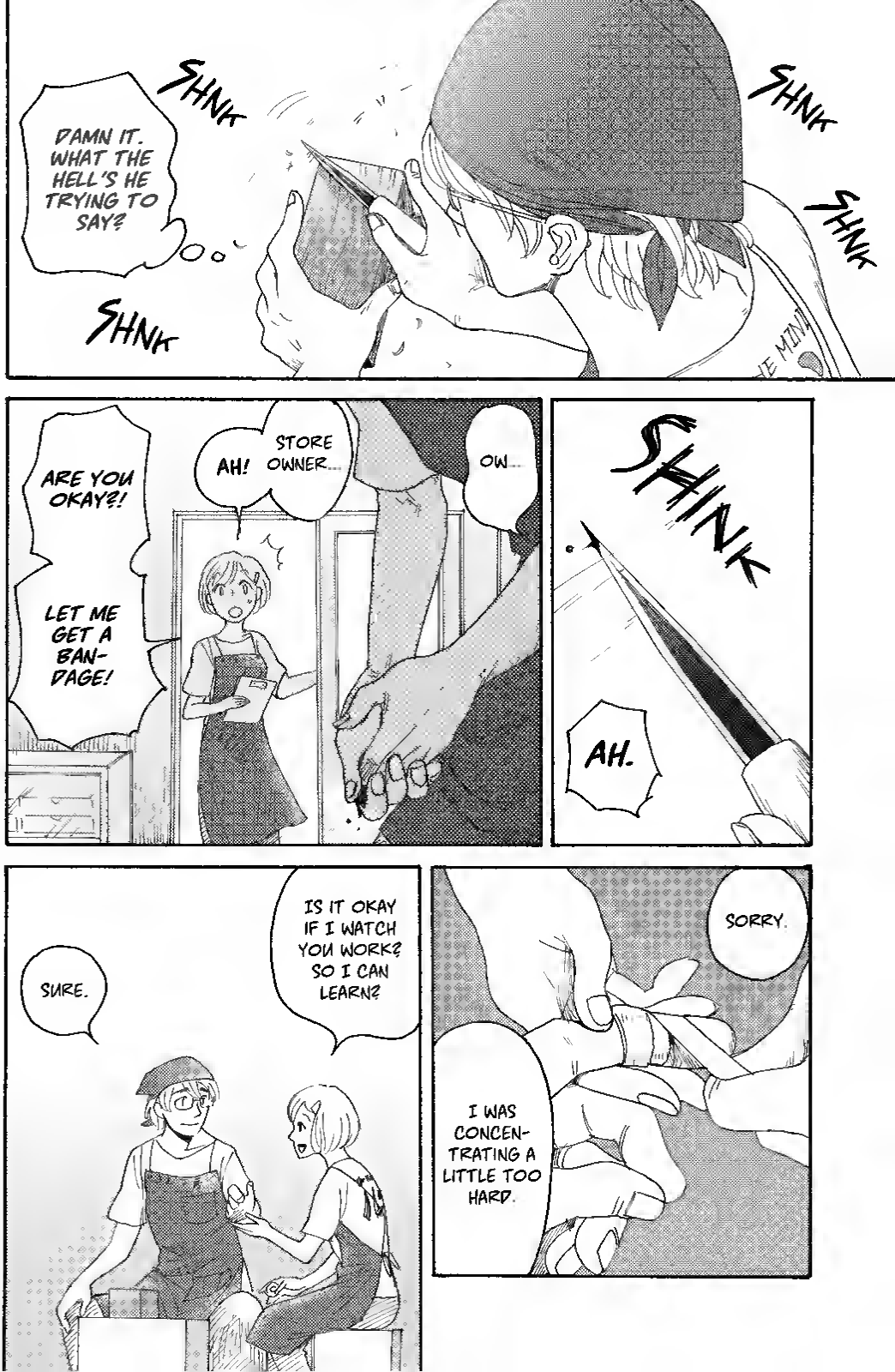
Chapter 3

Ah.
YUKI.
WHAT WAS I THINKING JUST NOW...?
WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TEA...
HUH? WHAT'S WRONG?
WHY ARE YOU SO COLD?
ARE YOU OKAY?
I'LL COME HAVE TEA SOON, OKAY?
I GUESS BECAUSE I'VE BEEN DOING THESE DISHES SO LONG
...

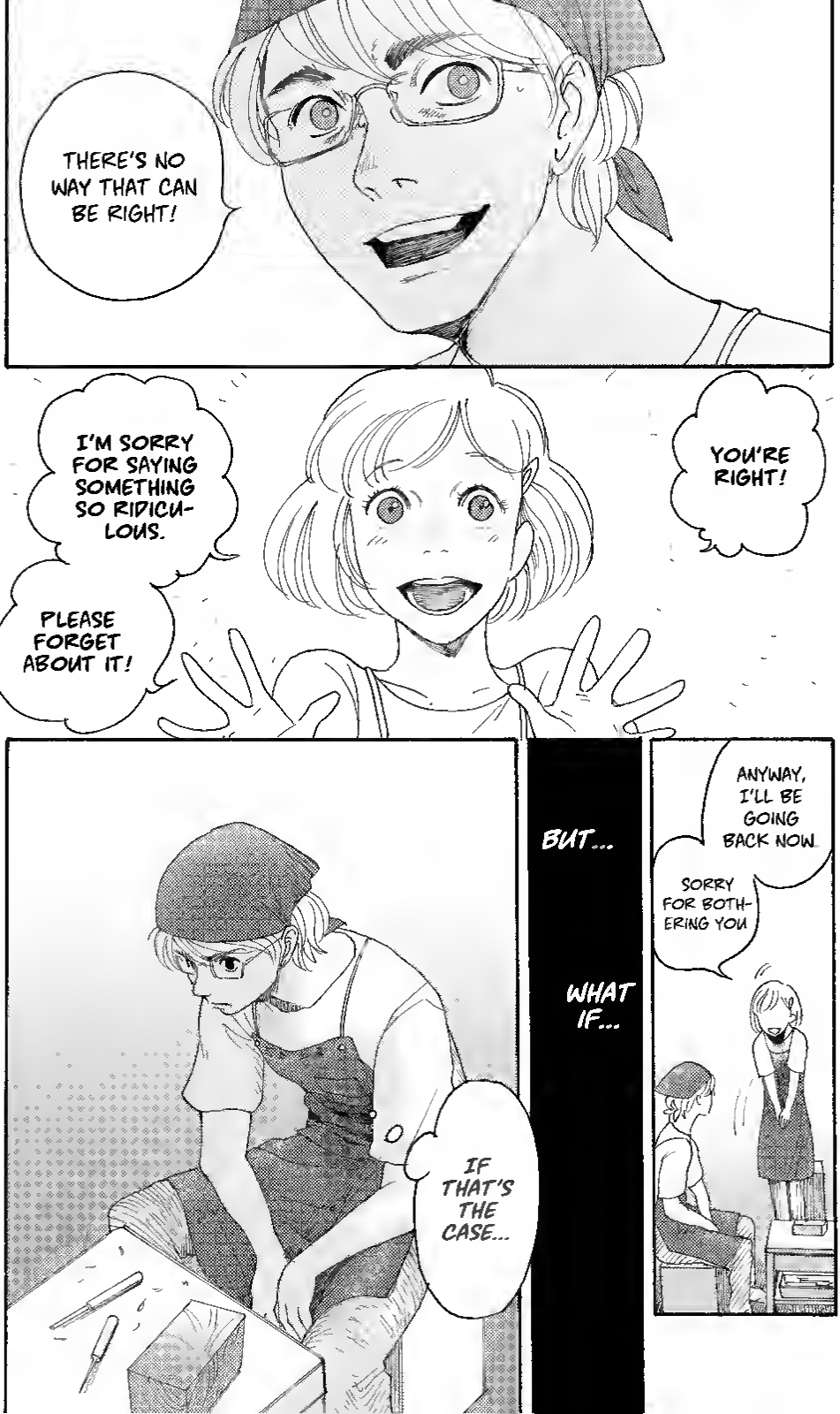
HEY, DAD? YOU CAME BY, RIGHT?
SORRY I WASN'T ABLE TO SEE YOU.
I HEARD YOU TALKED TO YUKI
SHE'S GREAT, ISN'T SHE?
WELL...
THERE WAS SOME KINDA MIS-UNDER-STANDING, I GUESS
HUH? WHAT ABOUT?
IT'S NOTH-ING
HOW'S YOUR WORK COMING ALONG?
IT'S FINE ORDERS ARE PICKING UP, AND THE STAFF IS DOING THEIR JOB WELL
A MAGAZINE'S DOING A PIECE ON US
I SEE...
SOUTA.

HUH?
MAKE SURE YOU STEP CAREFULLY.
CLICK
EVERY-THING'S GOING SO WELL, THOUGH
WITH THE STORE AND WITH YUKI.
WHAT DID HE MEAN?

YUKI...
DAMN IT...
AH, YEAH
SOUTA, I'M GOING SHOPPING.
DID YOU NEED SOMETHING?
YEAH?
SURE.
I'LL BE GOING NOW
AH... NO
TAKE CARE


SHNK
SHNK
SHNK
SHNK
DAMN IT. WHAT THE HELL'S HE TRYING TO SAY?
AH!
STORE OWNER...
OW...
ARE YOU OKAY?!
LET ME GET A BAN-DAGE!
SHINK
AH.
SURE.
IS IT OKAY IF I WATCH YOU WORK? SO I CAN LEARN?
SORRY.
I WAS CONCEN-TRATING A LITTLE TOO HARD.

YUKI HASN'T SEEN HIM EVEN ONCE
AND MY DAD WON'T EVEN APPROVE OF HER, EITHER
SHIT...
SHNK
SHNK
SHNK
ACTUALLY... I SAW THAT MAN AGAIN
HE... LOOKED LIKE HE WAS LOOKING FOR YUKI
I KNEW IT...
YUKI MUST HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THAT MAN...
HUH?
YOUR FATHER MUST KNOW, SOMEHOW...
BUT YUKI SAID SHE...
AH.


THERE'S NO WAY THAT CAN BE RIGHT!
I'M SORRY FOR SAYING SOMETHING SO RIDICULOUS.
PLEASE FORGET ABOUT IT!
YOU'RE RIGHT!
ANYWAY, I'LL BE GOING BACK NOW.
SORRY FOR BOTHERING YOU
BUT...
WHAT IF...
IF THAT'S THE CASE...

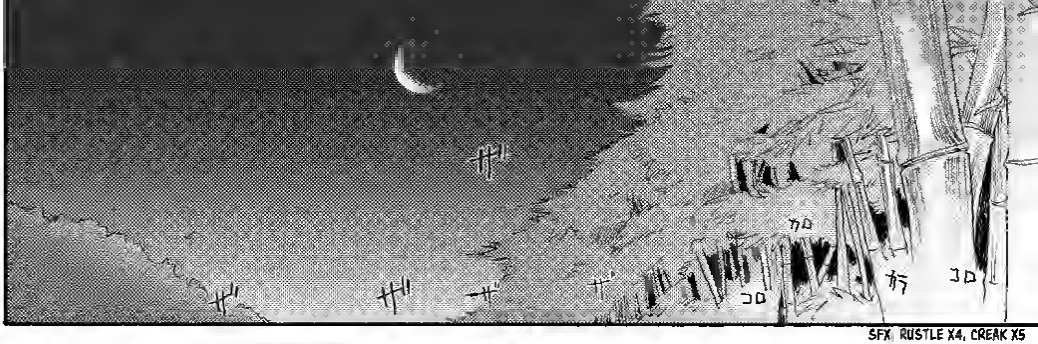
THEN DOESN'T EVERYTHING FIT?
HEY, YUKI,
WHERE DID YOU LIVE BEFORE YOU CAME HERE?
HMM?
WHY DO YOU WANT TO HEAR ABOUT THAT?
AH... NO PARTICULAR REASON...
浮気・身元
探偵
あなたの心配事を調査します。
AFFAIRS - EX-LOVERS
DETECTIVES
STRICT CONFIDENTIALITY
WE'LL FIND OUT THE TRUTH ABOUT YOUR LOVED ONES.

YOU'VE BEEN A LITTLE COLD LATELY, DON'T YOU THINK?
ME?
CLICK
THIS IS RIDICULOUS.
SOUTA...
DID HE TALK TO HIS FATHER?
LOOK, YOUR BODY'S PRETTY COLD
HM?
NOTHING

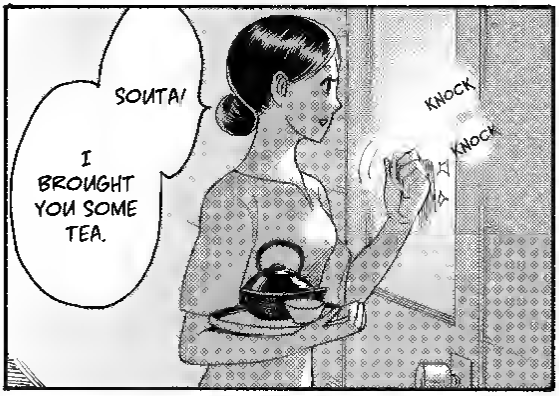
DON'T ANSWER ...
DO YOU DISLIKE COLD WOMEN?
I'M AFRAID TO HEAR...
YOUR ANSWER...

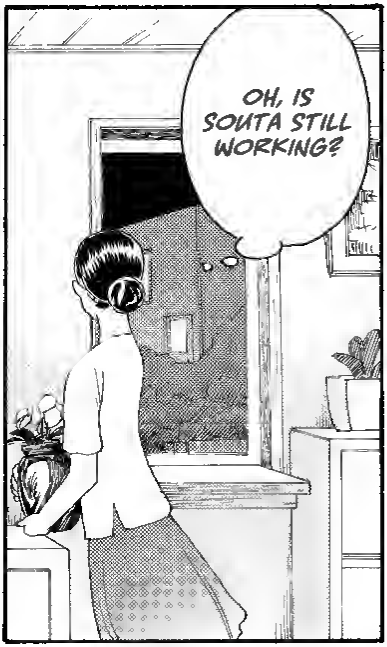
YOU TOTALLY GET IT!
I KNOW, THAT'S HOW IT IS!
RUB
THIS IS BAD.
I GOT COLDER AGAIN.

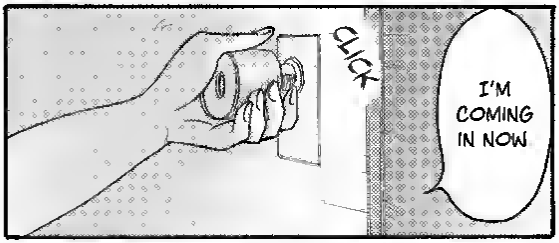
PLEASE TELL ME...
WHISPER
ANYTHING YOU CAN'T TELL YUKI.
I'LL ALWAYS BE HERE FOR YOU, OWNER.
SHE'S WARM...

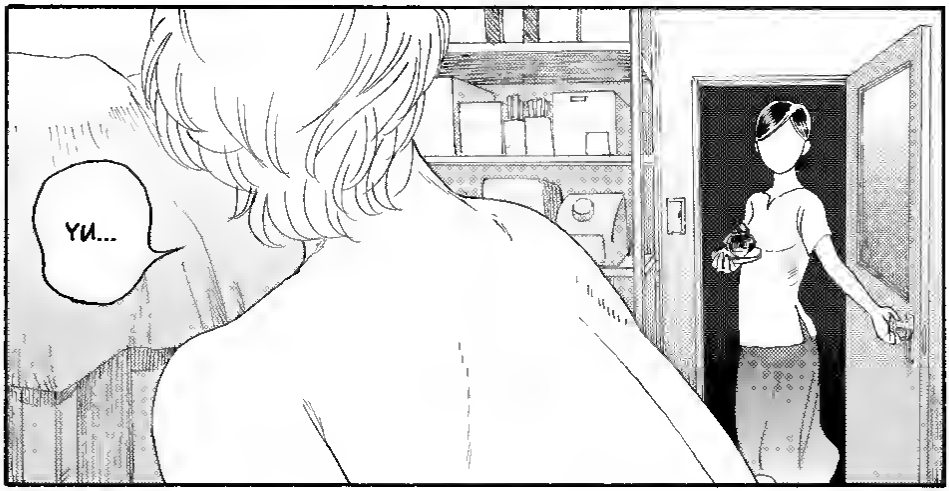


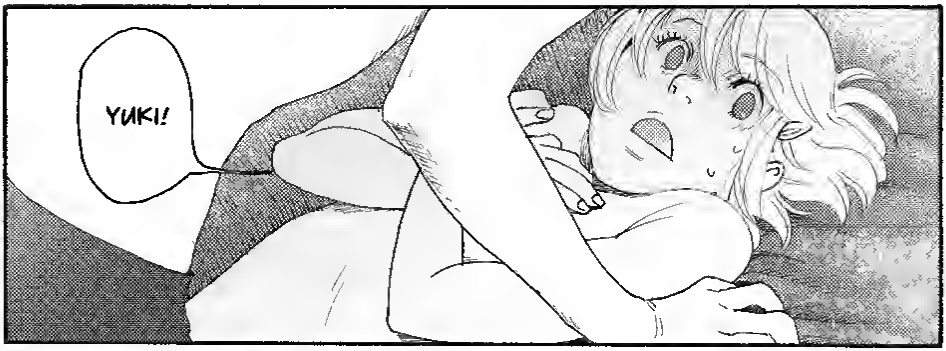
SFX: RUSTLE X4, CREAK X5

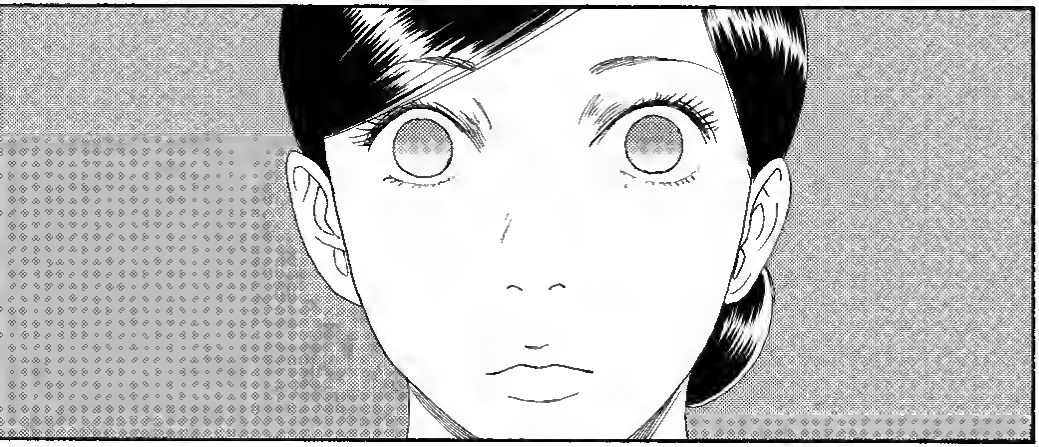








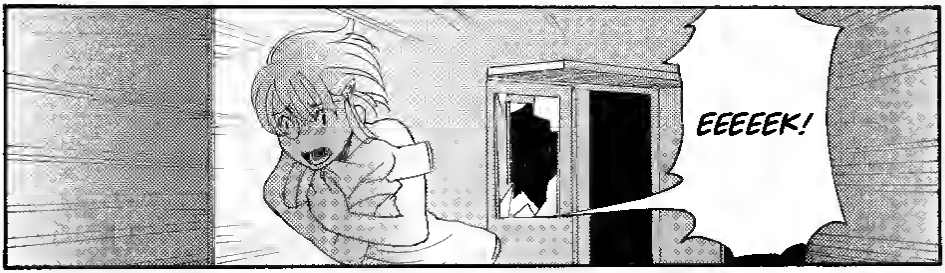

YUKI!



CRACK

YUKI!
THIS ISN'T WHAT...!

AH!
EEK!
SFX BOOM


EEEEEK!

HAVEN'T I BEEN GOOD TO YOU?
WHY ARE YOU ALL SO...?!

YUKI...

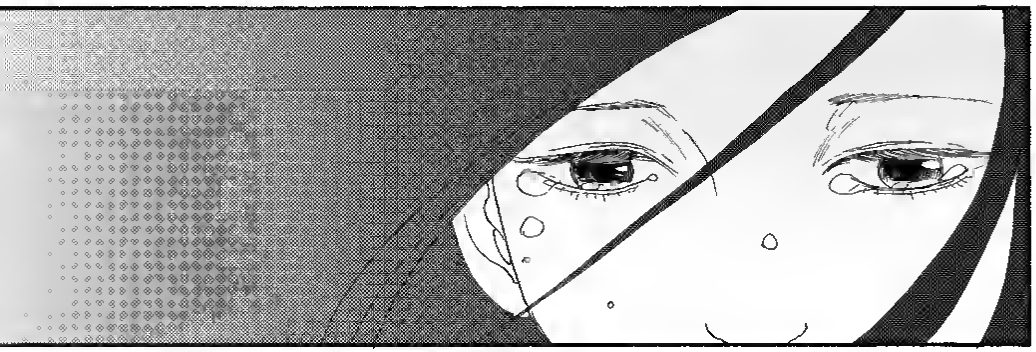
I THOUGHT ...
I COULD STAY WITH YOU YOUR WHOLE LIFE.

I CAN'T STAY HERE ANY MORE.
GOODBYE.
SFX: FSSSH
YUKI!
WAIT!

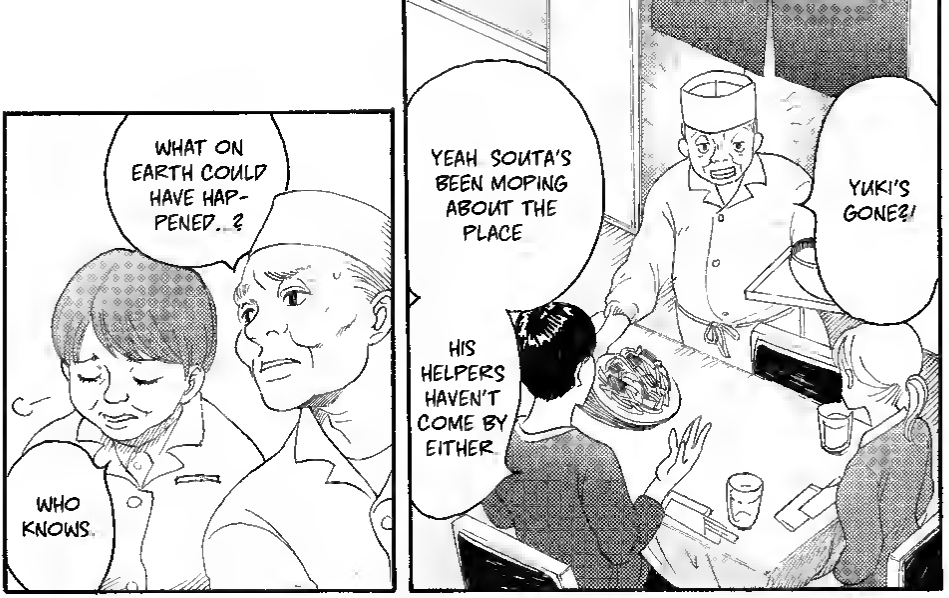
AH!
IF I STAY HERE, I'LL KILL YOU.
IF YOU'RE NOT HERE, I'M NOTH-ING.
PLEASE! STAY WITH ME!
YUKI! WAIT!
I WAS WRONG! I WENT ASTRAY FOR A SECOND, THAT'S ALL.

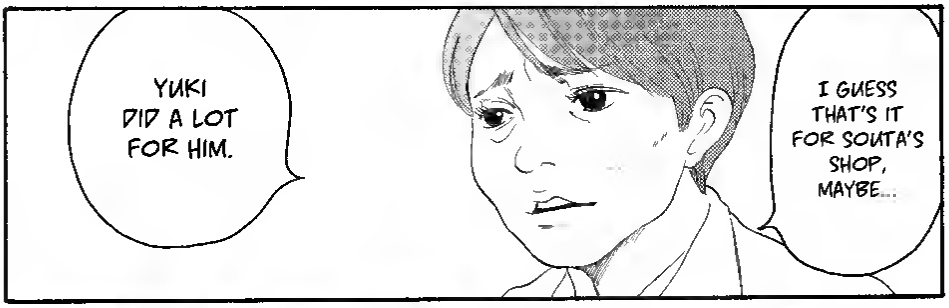
THROW ALL THIS AWAY.
SOUTA...
IN THAT CASE, WHY DON'T YOU COME, TOO?
ALL THIS...?

SLIP
木工室
三上工房

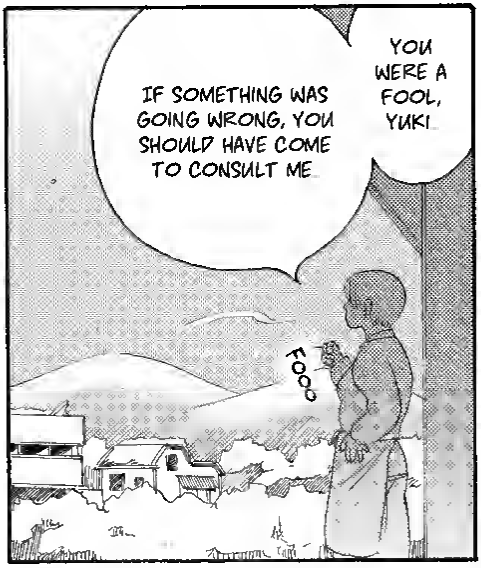


SFX: FWOOOO

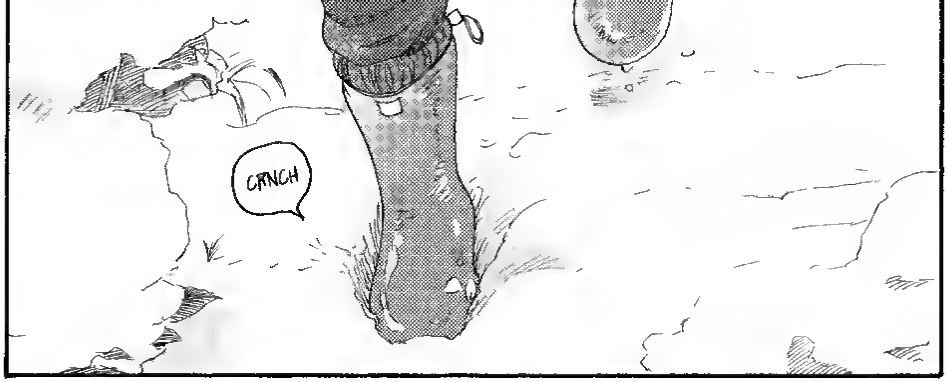

WHAT ON EARTH COULD HAVE HAPPENED...?
WHO KNOWS.
YEAH SOUTA'S BEEN MOPING ABOUT THE PLACE
HIS HELPERS HAVEN'T COME BY EITHER
YUKI'S GONE?!

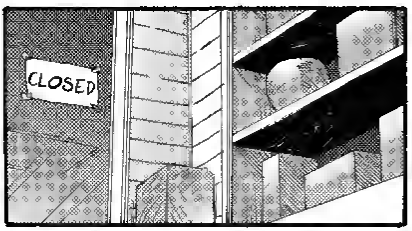

YUKI DID A LOT FOR HIM.
I GUESS THAT'S IT FOR SOUTA'S SHOP, MAYBE...

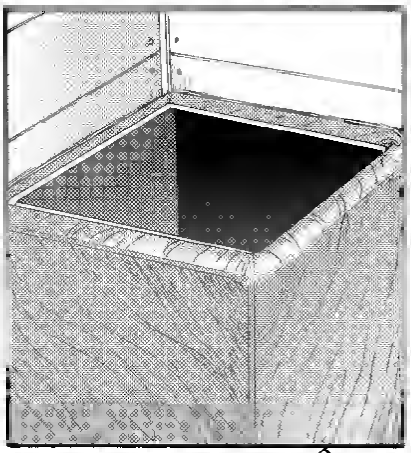
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT,
IT WAS AN UNSEASONABLY SNOWY DAY LIKE THIS WHEN SHE CAME HERE, TOO...


YOU WERE A FOOL, YUKI.
IF SOMETHING WAS GOING WRONG, YOU SHOULD HAVE COME TO CONSULT ME.
FOOO

SO...
SHE'S GONE, THEN.
JUST AN OLD SKETCH.
HUH? WHAT IS THAT?
AH! DAD! YOU CAN'T LIGHT STUFF ON FIRE ON THE...
HSSS
FWOOM
SOMETHING I DREW AS A KID.
I DON'T NEED IT ANY MORE.







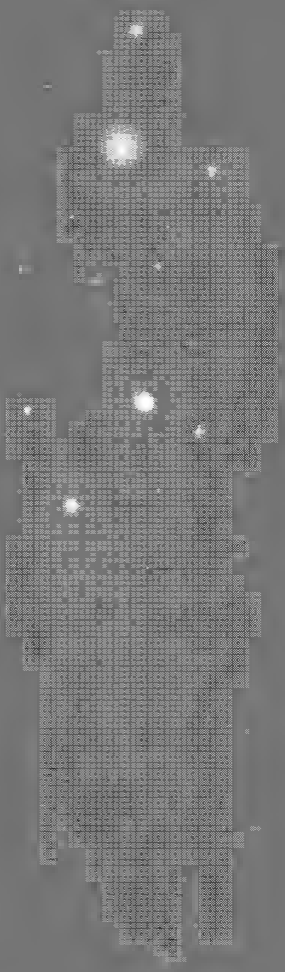
SFX WHACK

SFX: FLUTTER X2
SFX: CRASH
WHERE DID YOU TAKE HER?!
IT'S YOUR FAULT YUKI...
DON'T WORRY.
?!
RUSTLE RUSTLE
!
WHAT ARE YOU TO YUKI?!
ANSWER ME!

BY THE TIME THIS SNOW'S STOPPED, YOU'LL HAVE FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT HER.
HUH?
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?!
EVERYONE...?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!
IT'S LIKE THAT FOR EVERYONE.

SFX: WHOOOO

EXCUSE ME, HAVE YOU SEEN A WOMAN WITH A RED UMBRELLA?
THANKS.
EXCUSE ME, HAVE YOU SEEN...
THANKS.



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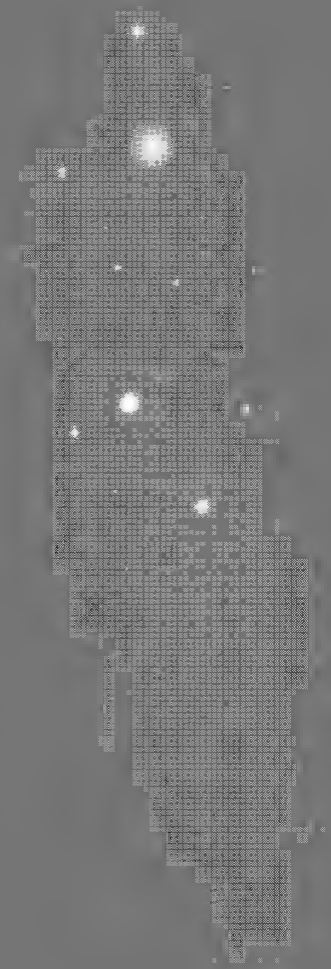
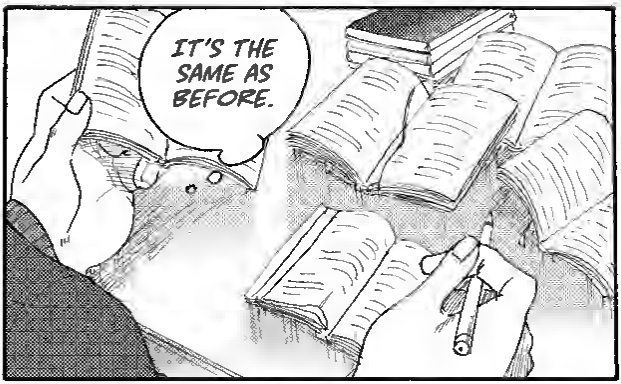
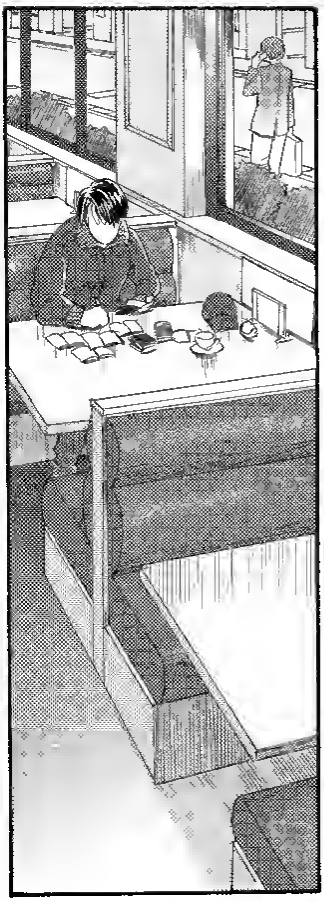


Jackson's
COFFEE & RESTAURANT


IT'S THE SAME AS BEFORE.



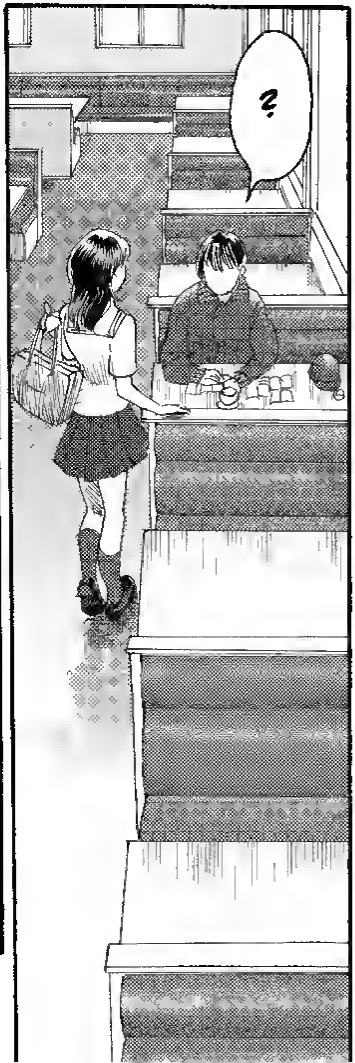
THE SAME THING KEEPS HAPPENING...
I WONDER WHAT THE REASON IS?

CHATTER
CHATTER
Ha ha ha!
WELL, I'M MEETING UP WITH SOME-ONE HERE

Chapter 4

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!

I'M NOT WAITING FOR ANYONE.
YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG PERSON.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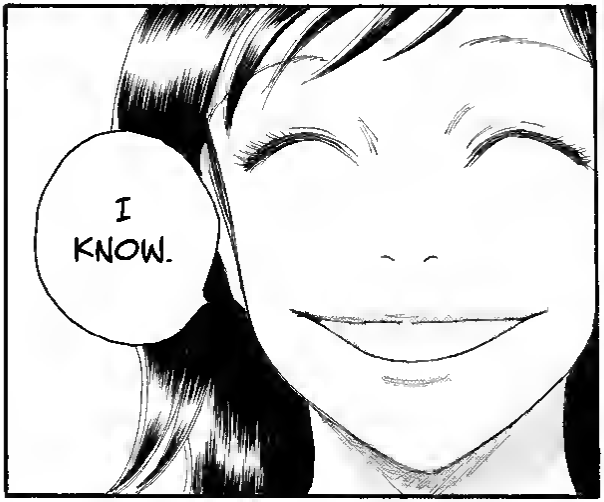
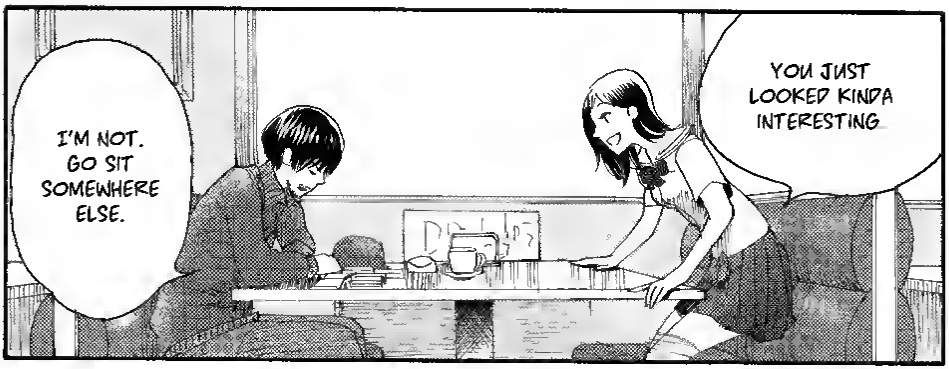
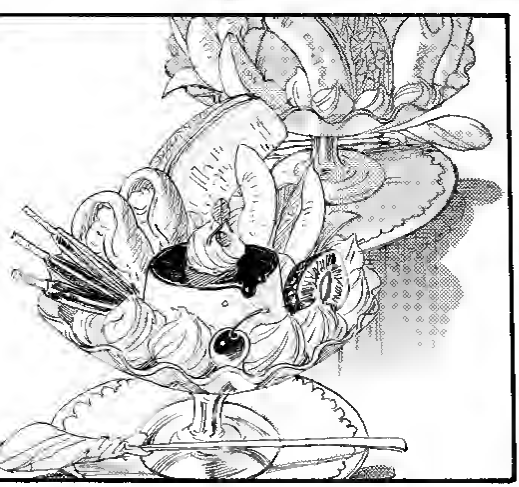

I KNOW.


I'M NOT. GO SIT SOMEWHERE ELSE.
YOU JUST LOOKED KINDA INTERESTING

I'LL BE RIGHT THERE!

DING DONG

WHAT'S IN THEM?
BUT I MEAN, YOU HAVE SO MANY OF THOSE LITTLE JOURNALS!
RUSTLE



I'M CHANGING SEA—
TWO SPECIAL PUDDINGS A LA MODE, PLEASE!
BEEP
OF COURSE

IT'S WRITTEN ALL OVER YOUR FACE, THOUGH.
THAT SO?
WHAT'S IN THAT MOUNTAIN OF JOURNALS?
AND?
IT'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT LIKE YOU
"I'VE REACHED THE LIMIT OF INFORMATION I CAN GATHER MYSELF."
"I WANT TO TALK TO SOMEONE"
IT'S SAYING

BUT...
WHAT'S WITH HER...?
Come on, come on!
SIGH
I GUESS... YOU'RE RIGHT...
THESE ARE...
MY DIARIES ABOUT A WOMAN I'M FOLLOWING.
FOLLOW-ING?
YOU'RE SOME KIND OF DETEC-TIVE, THEN?
WELL... I GUESS IT'D LOOK THAT WAY.
AWESOME!

SHE'S SOMEONE PULLING A FAKE MARRIAGE SCAM!
HEY, IS SHE A MURDERER?
OR SOMEONE WHO STOLE MONEY FROM A COMPANY AND IS ON THE RUN?!
AH, WAIT, I GOT IT!
A FAKE MARRIAGE SCAM, HUH?
Ha ha...
I GUESS THAT'S CLOSE ENOUGH
SHE DOES LIVE WITH MEN AND THEN RUN OFF REPEATEDLY,
TAP TAP
BUT...
MONEY ISN'T HER MOTIVE.

SHE DOESN'T ASK THEM FOR MONEY.
SHE LIVES A MODEST LIFE,
AND IS ALWAYS CHEERFUL.
SHE DOES HOUSE-WORK,
GETS PART TIME JOBS,
AND MEETS FRIENDS IN THE NEIGHBOUR-HOOD.

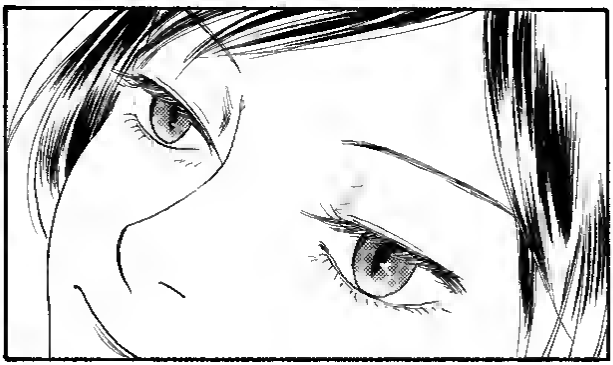
IF THE GUY IS SELF-EMPLOYED, SHE'LL HELP OUT WITH HIS BUSINESS...
SHE'S JUST LIKE ANY OTHER WIFE OF HIGHLY-DEVELOPED CHARACTER.
BUT...
ALL OF A SUDDEN,
SHE'LL JUST *DISAPPEAR.*

EVEN THOUGH I'VE SEEN IT HAPPEN MANY TIMES, I DON'T KNOW THE REASON AT ALL.
BUT ONE OF THE MEN SHE CUT TIES WITH WANTS TO RECONNECT
HUUUUH.
WOW.
AND WHAT WILL YOU DO...
IF YOU CATCH UP TO HER?

RUNNING THROUGH SO MANY MEN,
ONLY TO TOSS THEM ASIDE.
SHE'S JUST A BETRAYER
I DON'T THINK YOU CAN CALL HER A WELL-DEVELOPED WIFE OR WHATEVER.
BUT YOU KNOW...
DUNNO...
I'M STILL NOT CLEAR ON WHAT MY CLIENT INTENDS.
SHE'S JUST A REALLY COLD WOMAN?
DON'T YOU THINK...
YOU KNOW...
JUST...
BRUSH

LIKE
ME?

LET
GO.
YOU'RE NOT
THAT COLD.



THANKS FOR THE INTERESTING STORY
AH...
WAS IT INTEREST-ING?

I'VE NEVER HEARD ANYTHING SO INTERESTING MY WHOLE LIFE...
INTERESTING
VERRRYYY...
VERY, VERY,
SEE YOU
SAFE TRAVELS!
GUESS I'M PAYING FOR THESE, IN ANY CASE...
WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT...?

TAP
TAP
HEY...
DO YOU DISLIKE...
COLD WOMEN?

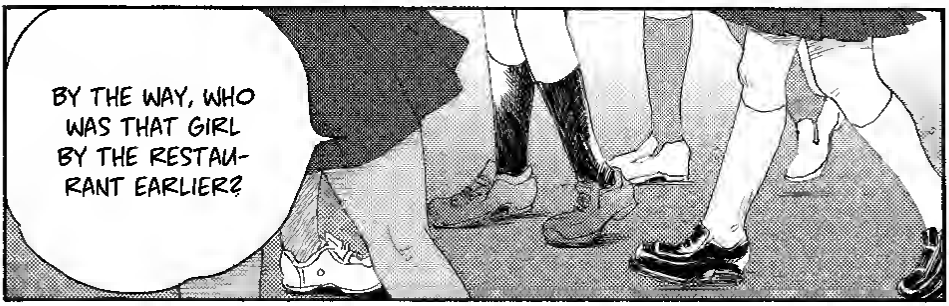
SIGH
HEH.

I NEVER WOULD HAVE THOUGHT YOU WERE STILL LIVING THAT WAY,
YUKI.

ELDER SISTER...

YOU MAKE ME LAUGH. SERIOUSLY.
ALWAYS MOVING FOR-WARD...
HA...
HA HA HA HA HA!
SOMETIMES YOU SHOULD LOOK BEHIND YOU, TOO.
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA!

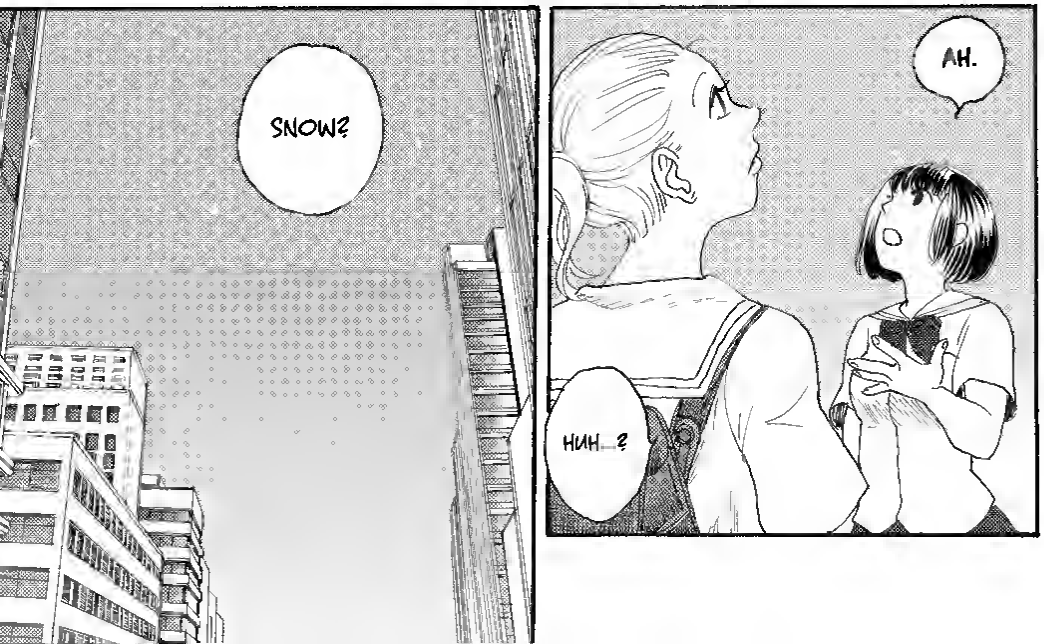
Ha
ha
ha
ha
ha!


BY THE WAY, WHO WAS THAT GIRL BY THE RESTAU-RANT EARLIER?

NO WAY. I THOUGHT SHE WAS FROM CLASS 2.

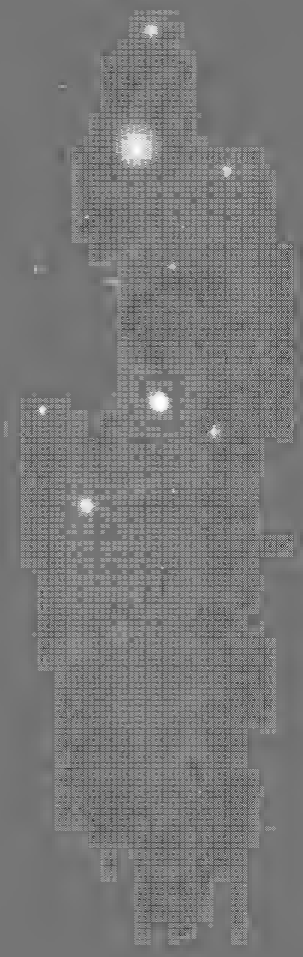
HUH?
I DUNNO. ISN'T SHE ONE OF YOUR FRIENDS?
SHE MUST BE FROM CLASS 4, THEN,
RIGHT?
NO WAY, I DON'T KNOW HER

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, HER HAND...
WAS REALLY, REALLY COLD...
NO... SHE'S NOT IN OUR CLASS-ROOM...
HUH?
SERI-OUSLY?
SO... YOU'RE SAYING NONE OF US KNOW HER AT ALL?


SNOW?
AH.
HUH...?

IT SNOWED OUT OF SEASON LIKE THIS, TOO.

THE FIRST TIME I EVER MET HER,



Snow Woman Fantasy:
Chronicles of Michiyuki
BY ANDO ICORI

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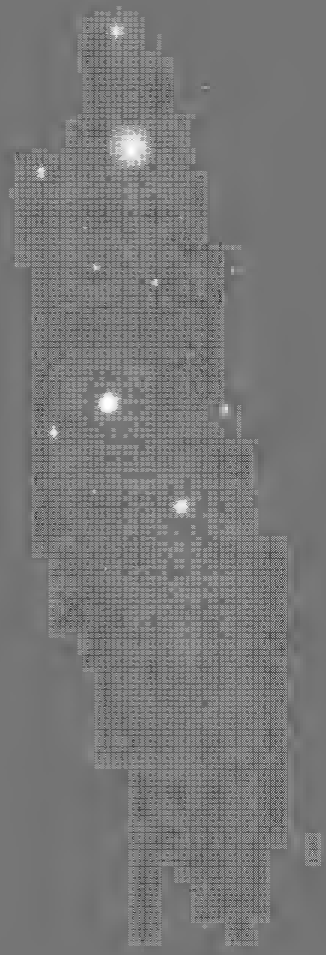
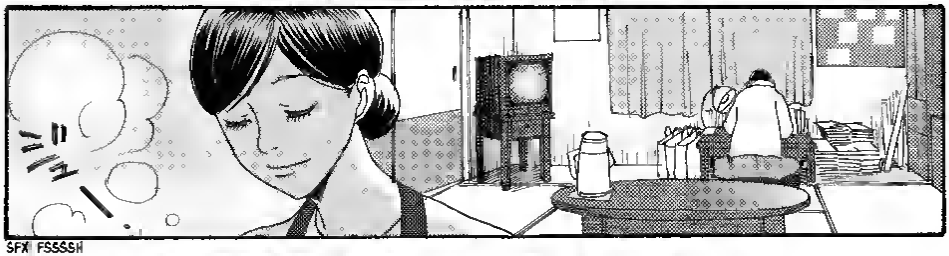


I OUGHTA BUY HER A RED UMBRELLA.
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
IT'D LOOK REALLY GOOD AGAINST HER PALE SKIN.
AKIHIKO!
HUH?
IT'S OUR ANNIVER-SARY, RIGHT?
YUKI...
THIS... IS FOR YOU.

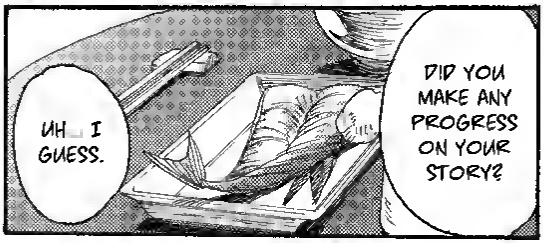
I'M SO HAPPY!
HOW DOES IT LOOK?
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
I BOUGHT YUKI A RED UMBRELLA
YEAH
IT SUITS YOU A LOT.

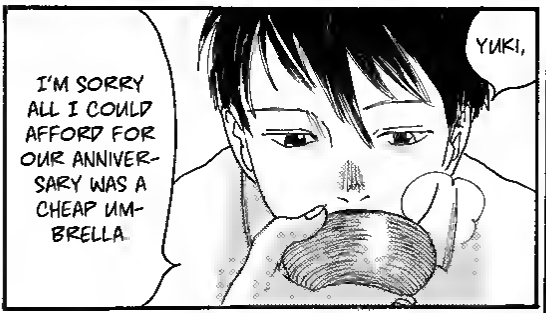
Final Chapter

CALANDAR SEPTEMBER, 2 MONTHS TO NEW WRITER'S PRIZE DEADLINE



SFX FSSSSH





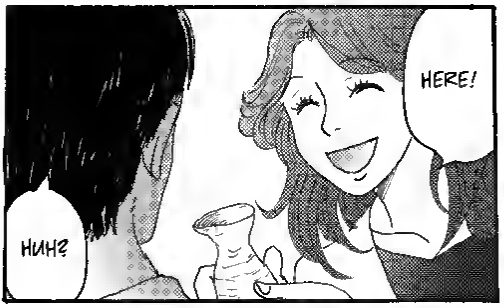
WHEN I BECOME A FAMOUS AUTHOR,
I'LL BUY YOU ANYTHING YOU WANT, OKAY?
JUST BE PATIENT UNTIL THEN...
I'M ALREADY VERY HAPPY.
I LIKE THAT UMBRELLA A LOT.
I CAN'T WAIT TO GO WALKING WITH YOU NEXT TIME IT SNOWS
HEE HEE...
IT'LL BE FUN
YUKI
...

SIGN: QUALITY IS PRIORITY NUMBER ONE
SFX: KASHINK
ガシャン
ガシャン
ガシャン
ガシャン
品質
SHE SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD WIFE
OH?
I WISH MY WIFE'D TAKE A PAGE OUT OF HER BOOK!
YEAH. I GUESS
SHE DOESN'T WANT STUFF, DOESN'T COMPLAIN ABOUT YOUR LOW SALARY, AND EVEN GOT A PART TIME JOB, DIDN'T SHE?
VWAAAAAA!
ISHI-ZUKI! YOU AGAIN?!
CHIEF! THE LINE'S STOPPED!
ドッドドド
AH! ARE YOU WRITING IN THAT THING AGAIN?
CLUNK
"TAKE A PAGE OUT OF HER BOOK." BEEN A WHILE SINCE I HEARD THAT.
SFX STOMP X3

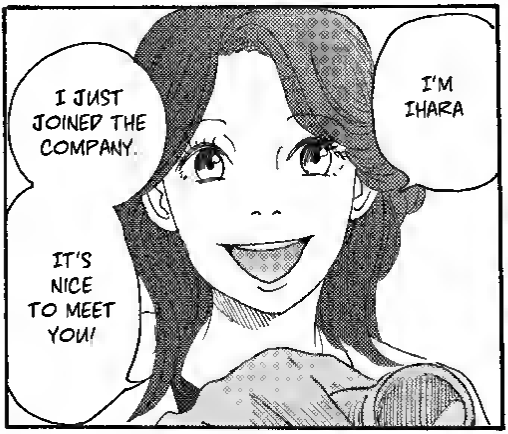
HOW MANY TIMES I GOTTA TELL YOU NOT TO LIFT YOUR HANDS FROM THE BELT?!
BECAUSE OF YOU, EVERYONE'S WORK'S SCREWED UP NOW!
SFX WHAM
THERE'S NO OTHER PLACE TO WORK IN THIS TOWN, EITHER!
DON'T THINK ABOUT YOUR OWN THOUGHTS!
YOU GOT IT?! WHEN YOU'RE HERE IN THE FACTORY, YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A COG IN A MACHINE!
JUST DO THE WORK OF A COG!
IF YOU DO THIS AGAIN, I'LL FIRE YOU.
YOU UNDERSTAND?!
HE'S A BEAST...

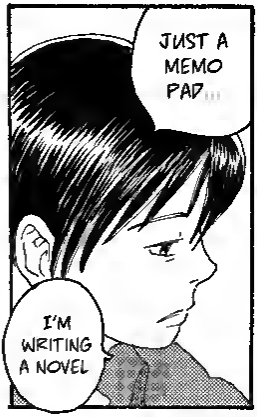
SFX: KASHINK X3
ONE DAY,
I'M GOING...
TO LEAVE THIS PLACE.
THE SUBMISSION PERIOD'S SO CLOSE!
FIRST PRIZE 1000000 YEN
SECOND PRIZE 500000 YEN
RUNNER UP 50000 YEN
AND WHAT WE NEED FOR THAT...
IS MONEY.
I'VE GOTTA WIN THAT PRIZE.
12 ONE MONTH TO THE NEW WRITER'S PRIZE DEAD LINE
ME AND YUKI BOTH.
AMAZ-ING...
HOW IS IT?
FLAP

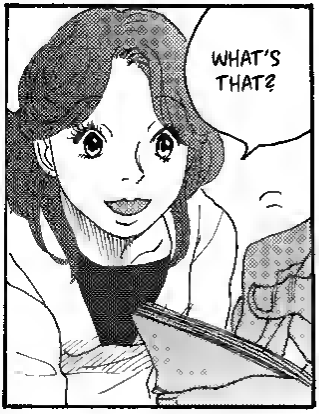
YUKI, DO YOU...
HAVE ANY DREAMS?
SOMETHING YOU WANT TO DO? OR HAVE?
YOU'RE AMAZING, AKIHIKO! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU WROTE THIS!
I DON'T KNOW A THING ABOUT LITERATURE, BUT...
I DO.
I WANT...
TO BE WITH YOU FOREVER, AKIHIKO


HERE!
HUH?

FWIP

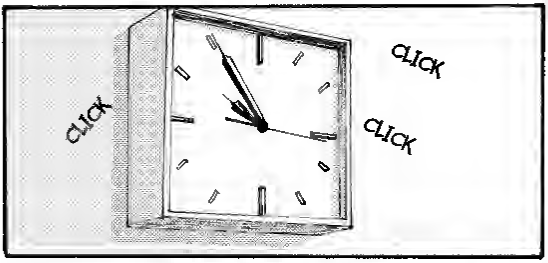

I'M IHARA
I JUST JOINED THE COMPANY.
IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU!


JUST A MEMO PAD...
I'M WRITING A NOVEL


WHAT'S THAT?

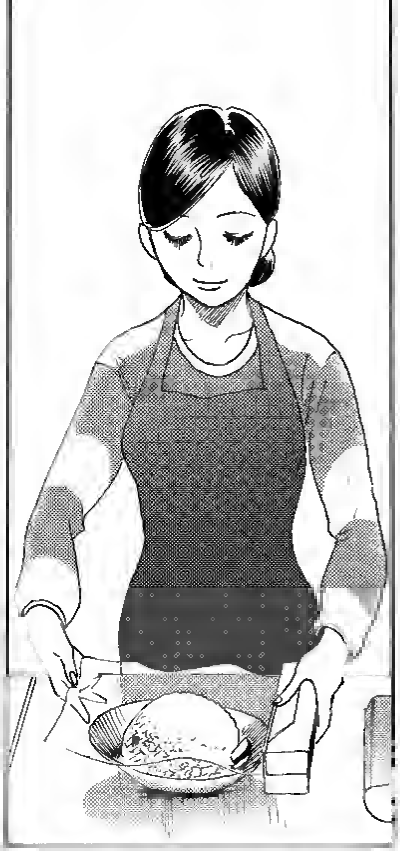
UH, YEAH
I'M ISHI-ZUKI.

WELL... HERE..
WHAT?! A NOVEL?! I WANT TO READ IT!
WHAT'S IT ABOUT?
THANKS
THIS IS REALLY GREAT, ISHIZUKI.
IT'S INCRED-IBLE...
PLEASE LET ME READ IT TO THE END.
I MEAN, I MAJORED IN LITERA-TURE.
BUT THIS... THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE READ SOMETHING SO MOVING AND PROFOUND!
SOMETHING LIKE THIS...
WILL TOTALLY CHANGE THE WORLD OF LITERATURE!


CLICK
CLICK
CLICK

I'M BACK.
CLICK
WELCOME HOME!

...



GOOD LUCK!
YEAH.

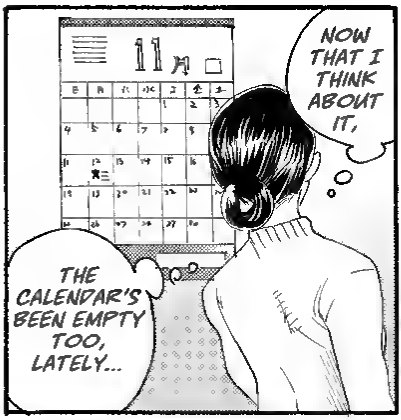
I WANT TO WRITE WHILE IT'S STILL FRESH IN MY MIND
I'LL EAT LATER, OKAY?

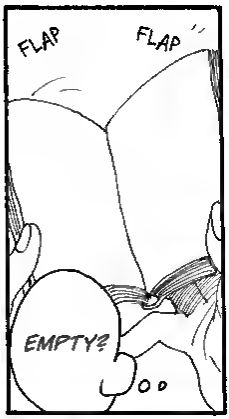
WERE YOU ABLE TO SCOUT OUT THE LOCA-TION?
YEAH.

IF YOU WANT TO BE A SUCCESS,
YOU HAVE TO MAKE AN INVESTMENT NOW.
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING FOR WRITING IS TO LIVE EXTRAVAGANTLY!
HOW ABOUT THIS ONE HERE?
IF IT'S A GEMSTONE, IT HAS TO BE BIG, RIGHT?
THE WOMAN YOU'RE WRITING ABOUT, WHAT MATCHES HER IMAGE?
SEE? IF YOU ACTUALLY DO IT,
IT'LL BE MUCH EASIER TO WRITE CONVINCINGLY.
IS THIS... REALLY OKAY?

SLIDE
YOU'RE WORKING HARD ON YOUR DAY OFF.
...
SCRITCH SCRITCH
CLINK
GATHERING INFORMATION... COSTS MONEY, RIGHT?
I'M WORKING TOO, SO WE'RE OKAY.
SORRY...
YUKI...
I'LL DEFINITELY WIN THAT PRIZE!
THAT'S RIGHT. WITH THIS, I'M ALL IN.

ROP
ALL OF THIS
IS NECESSARY FOR US TO SUCCEED.


11月
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT,
THE CALENDAR'S BEEN EMPTY TOO, LATELY...


FLAP
FLAP
EMPTY?

OH, AKIHIKO LEFT WITHOUT HIS MEMO BOOK...

RUSTLE

I CAN'T GET COLD...
I BELIEVE...
IN AKI-HIKO...
BOOK NEW WRITER'S PRIZE
HEH HEH.
OH, AKI-HIKO?!
IT'S ME
THAT'S RIGHT! TODAY'S THE DAY THEY AN-NOUNCED THE RESULTS
WHAT...
HAVE I DONE?
Ha ha ha...
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT
IF I'D THOUGHT ABOUT IT FOR AN IN-STANT, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN OBVI-OUS

NO. I DIDN'T PLACE AT ALL.
I DIDN'T EVEN MAKE IT PAST THE FIRST ROUND.
WHAT?!
I LOST.
WHAT? YOU DIDN'T GET THE TOP PRIZE?! THAT'S TOUGH...
STOP.
I'M SURE YOU'LL GET SOME NEW IDEAS!
WELL, WHY DON'T WE GO SOMEWHERE NEW, THEN?
I NEVER WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
YOU WERE ONLY USING ME FOR MY MONEY!
SFX SLAM
YOU KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN FROM THE OUTSET, DIDN'T YOU?!
I'M NOT ANY KIND OF LITERARY GENIUS!

FOOLISH MAN
ガチャン
TCH.
SFX: SLAM
ガシャン
ガシャン
ガシャン
SFX: KACHINK X3
AS LONG AS I...
CAN SEE HER SMILE...
FROM NOW ON, I'VE GOTTA THINK OF MY LIFE WITH YUKI.
KACHINK
KACHINK
KNOCK KNOCK
WHO COULD THAT BE AT THIS HOUR?
HM?

HELLO THERE
ISHIZUKI
YUKI, IS IT?
YES.
WHO MIGHT YOU BE?
AH... UH, HI, IHARA.
YUKI, IHARA JUST STARTED WORKING AT...
I'M PREGNANT.
WHAT?
IT'S YOUR CHILD, AKIHIKO.

FWOOSH
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
HAVEN'T YOU NOTICED THAT YOUR HUSBAND'S BEEN GOING ON A LOT OF RE-SEARCH TRIPS LATELY? HE'S BEEN...
CRUCIAL
THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE THE WARMTH OF ANY LIVING BEING IN THERE.
OH HOW STRANGE

IF THERE WAS A BABY, I'D EXPECT SOME WARMTH.
IF THIS ICE REACHES YOUR WOMB.
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
LOOK. IT'S FREEZING OVER, ISN'T IT?
YOU'D NEVER BE ABLE TO HAVE A CHILD. DON'T YOU THINK?
EE—!

YOU MONSTER!
LET ME GO!
SFX: SLAP

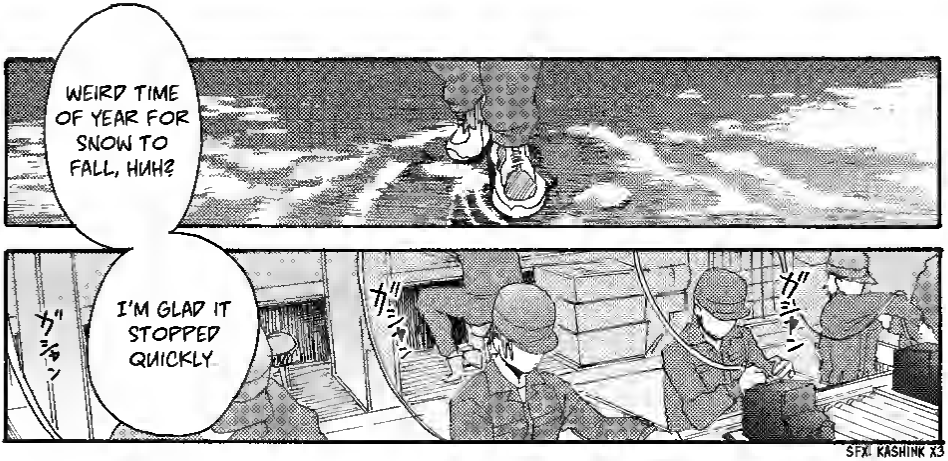
AH!
YUKI... THIS IS A MISUNDERSTANDING SHE AND I NEVER...
SFX: BOOM
IT'S .. TOO LATE...
I'M SORRY...
FSSH
WHY? WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?!
I CAN'T STAY HERE ANY LONGER...

BUT THIS IS MY NATURE.
I DON'T BLAME YOU.
YES.
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
SHE TRICKED ME, TOO!
YOU SAW WHAT KIND OF LIAR SHE IS, RIGHT?
ALL I EVER WANTED WAS TO BE HAPPY WITH YOU.
SHE MISLED ME WITH HER MEAN-INGLESS LIES, IS ALL!
I CAN ONLY BE HUMAN WHILE I'M IN A MUTUAL RELATIONSHIP.
YOUR WARMTH STOPS ME FROM BEING COLD.
BUT ONCE I'VE GOTTEN COLD...

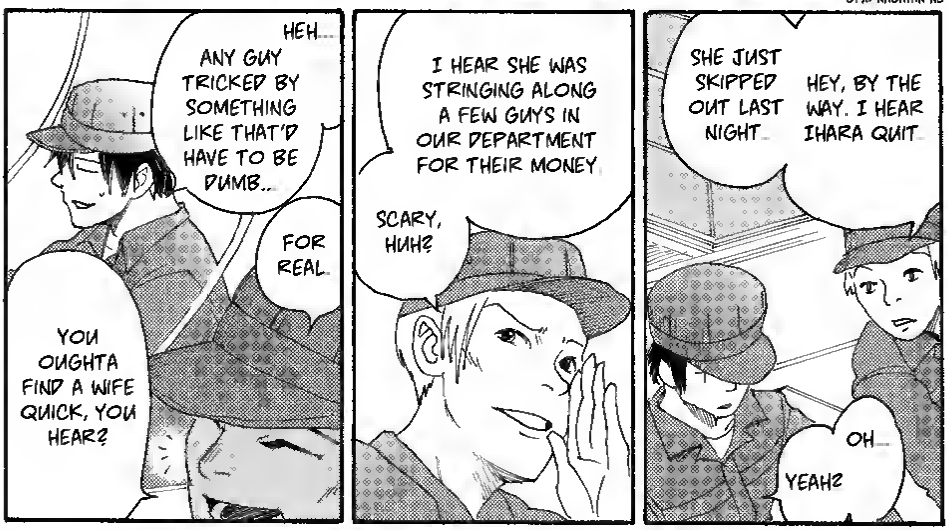
WHAT... WHAT DO YOU MEAN, YUKI...?
WHAT ON EARTH ARE...
SFX: WHOOOOO
SFX: CHATTER X3
GOODBYE, AKIHIKO.
YUKI...
BEFORE YOU COULD WARM ME,
YOU'D FREEZE TO DEATH.

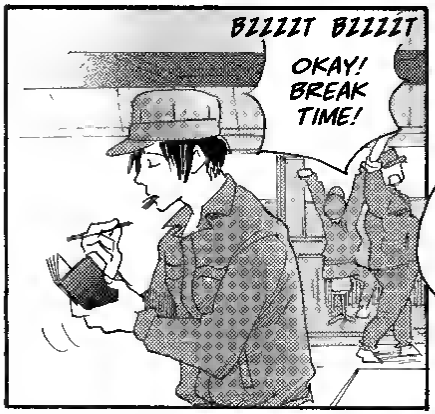
PLOP
FADE
FADE
WHAT THE...?
CRACKLE

FLAP FLAP
FADE
WHY....
WHY?
YUKI!



SFX: KASHINK X3


HEH...
ANY GUY TRICKED BY SOMETHING LIKE THAT'D HAVE TO BE DUMB..
FOR REAL.
YOU OUGHTA FIND A WIFE QUICK, YOU HEAR?
I HEAR SHE WAS STRINGING ALONG A FEW GUYS IN OUR DEPARTMENT FOR THEIR MONEY.
SCARY, HUH?
SHE JUST SKIPPED OUT LAST NIGHT.
HEY, BY THE WAY. I HEAR IHARA QUIT.
OH...
YEAH?



I ENTERED YUKI...
INTO MY FAMILY REGISTRY.
YUKI!
"YEAH. I OUGHTA BUY HER A RED UMBRELLA. IT'D LOOK REALLY GOOD AGAINST HER PALE SKIN."
FLAP
"I'LL CHECK WITH YUKI."
"I SHOULD ASK YUKI."
"YUKI MADE IT FOR ME."
FLAP
FLAP
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY I BOUGHT YUKI A RED UMBRELLA
?

↑JR線のホーム
Transfer of JR Line

Poof

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
I BOUGHT YUKI A
RED UMBRELLA

I LOST TRACK OF YUKI AGAIN, THOUGH.

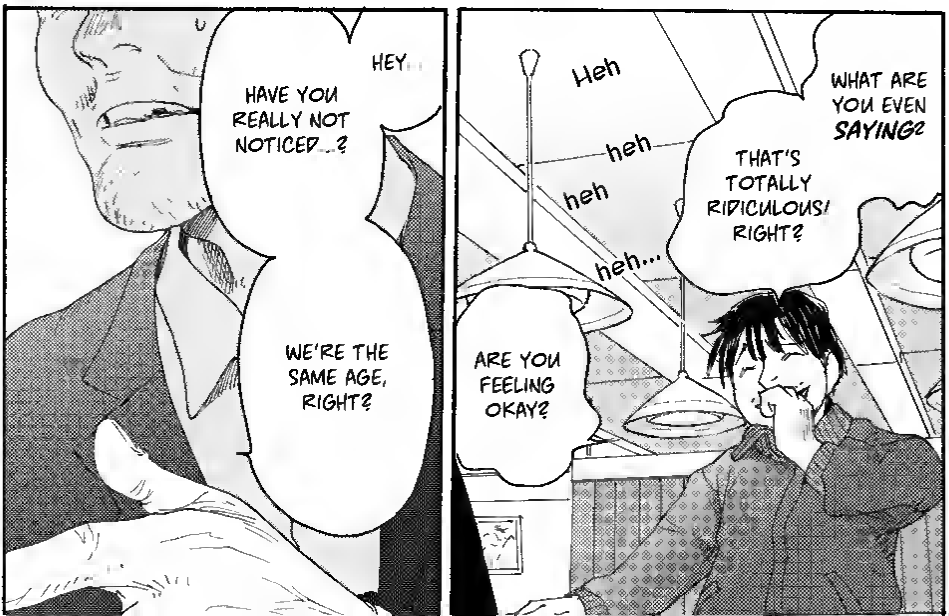
THANKS FOR CALL-ING
IT'S BEEN A WHILE, HUH?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I CAME LAST TIME TOO, RIGHT?

cafe
AKIHIKO
YO!

THAT AGAIN...?
I WAS THINKING I SHOULD JUST RETURN HERE TO START WITH.
WE'VE BEEN FRIENDS SINCE CHILDHOOD, SO...
SO I'LL TELL YOU.
AKI-HIKO
IT'S TIME TO STOP THIS.
I KNOW, I'M STUB-BORN.
BUT YUKI'S THE ONLY WIFE FOR ME.
YOU SAID YOURSELF SHE MADE A GOOD WIFE.
AS FAR AS I CAN TELL,
YOU DIDN'T HAVE A WIFE.
WHAT YOU'VE BEEN FOLLOWING IS. CERTAINLY, SHE'S...

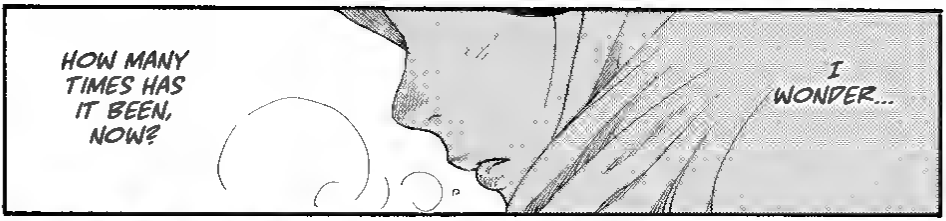
A SNOW WOMAN.

HA HA HA HA HA!
PFFT.


HEY...
HAVE YOU REALLY NOT NOTICED...?
WE'RE THE SAME AGE, RIGHT?
Heh
heh
heh
heh...
WHAT ARE YOU EVEN SAYING?
THAT'S TOTALLY RIDICULOUS! RIGHT?
ARE YOU FEELING OKAY?

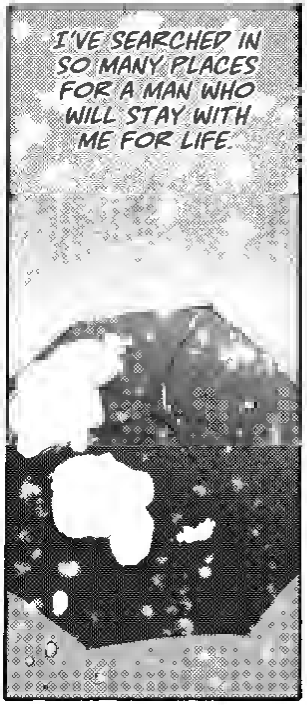
BUT IT'S ALREADY BEEN 40 YEARS
SINCE YOU LEFT THE FACTORY.

THE SNOW...
ERASES EVERYTHING.

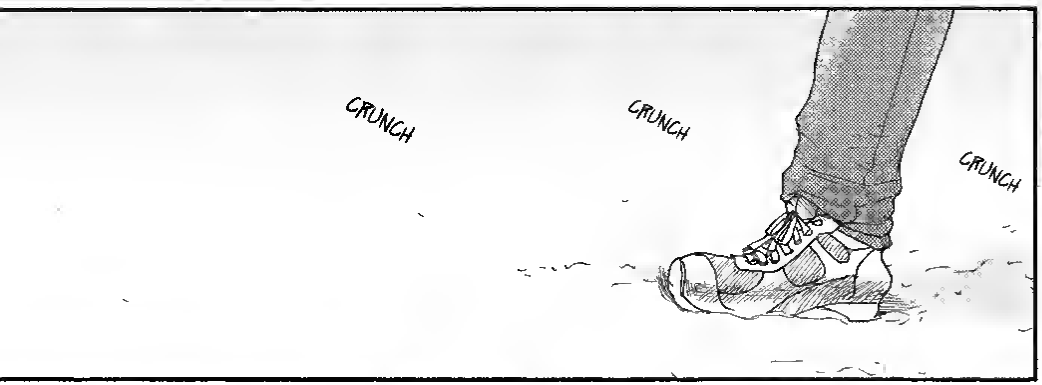

HOW MANY TIMES HAS IT BEEN, NOW?
I WONDER...

WE COULD DIE TOGETHER.

IF I COULD FIND SOME-ONE WHO LOVED ME,
WE WOULD BE ABLE TO AGE TOGETHER.
CRUNCH


I'VE SEARCHED IN SO MANY PLACES FOR A MAN WHO WILL STAY WITH ME FOR LIFE.

CRUNCH
CRUNCH


CRUNCH
CRUNCH
CRUNCH

CRUNCH
CRUNCH

SFX: WHOOOOO

Fin
雪女幻想 みちゆき篇 ―終―

AFTERWORD

I love the quietness of the world when snow has piled up and absorbed sound.

The most famous snow woman froze old people and hunters who had lost their way and then appear before men in the form of a bride. It's said that she made a good bride when she was human, and had children with as many as ten people.

But one day, the husbands would inevitably say "People say a woman like you's been seen before. That was the snow woman, wasn't it?" and the family would be broken apart.

Another snow woman would stand in the snow holding a child in her arms, and beg passing people to take the child from her.

Whoever took the child would find that it suddenly weighed as much as a boulder, and they would be covered in snow until they died.

Yet another snow woman would ask for bathhouse recommendations, and then melt away, only to reappear in the frightening form of an old woman.

There are surprisingly many snow women, it seems...

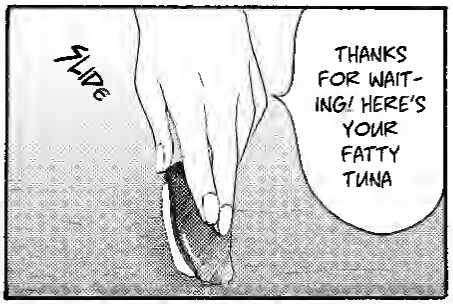
Despite this, we never learn the names or looks of them, other than that they were beautiful and very pale. And surely their hands were cold, too. Surely there must have been at least one person who remembered them fondly.

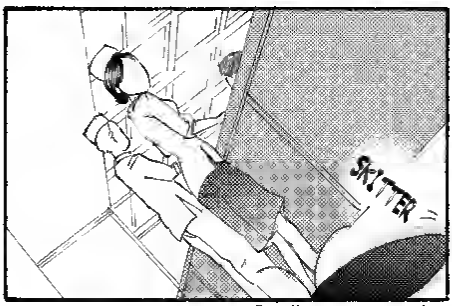
2014, January

Ikori Ando

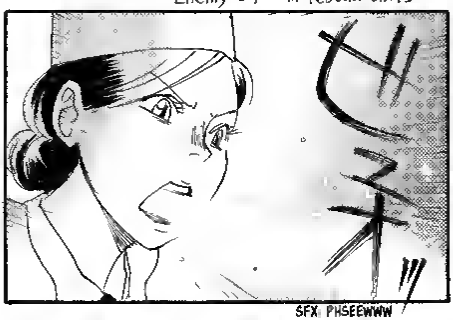
Staff: Arakawa Masao

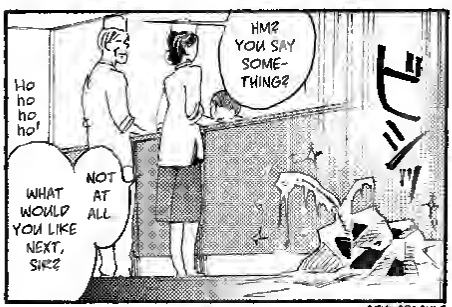
EXTRA 4 PANEL COMICS

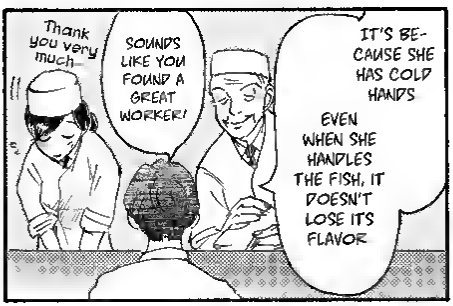




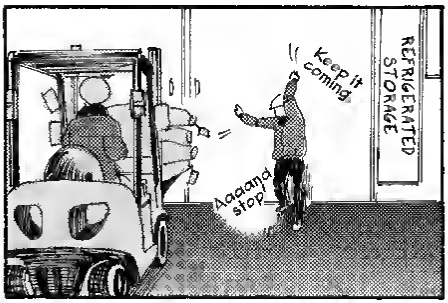
Enemy of all restaurants↑

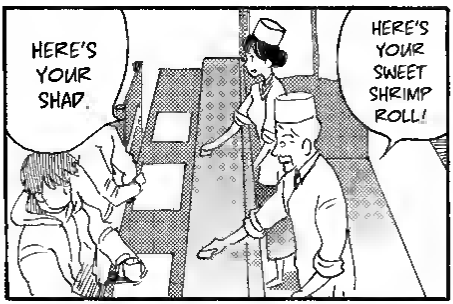


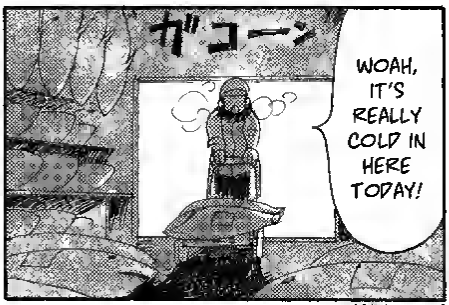



Thank you very much...
SOUNDS LIKE YOU FOUND A GREAT WORKER!
IT'S BECAUSE SHE HAS COLD HANDS
EVEN WHEN SHE HANDLES THE FISH, IT DOESN'T LOSE ITS FLAVOR

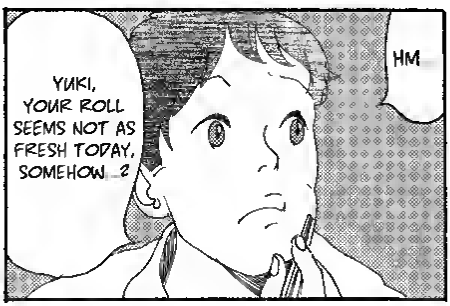
EXTRA 4 PANEL COMICS

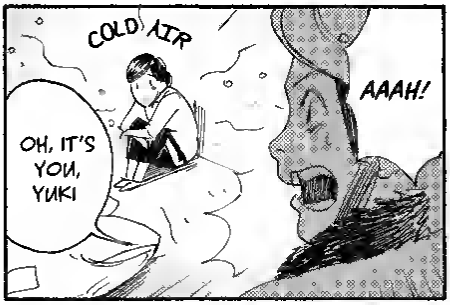


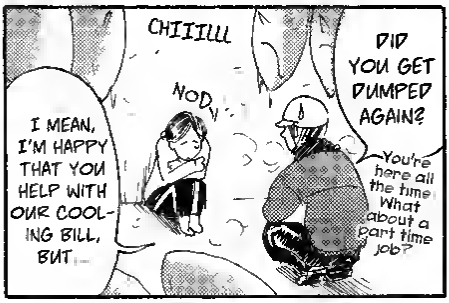




SFX: CLOOOONG






CHIIILL
NOD
DID YOU GET DUMPED AGAIN?
You're here all the time. What about a part time job?
I MEAN, I'M HAPPY THAT YOU HELP WITH OUR COOLING BILL, BUT...